

Kyprianou holds talks in Peking

PEKING (R) — Cyprus President Spyros Kyprianou, seeking China's support for efforts to re-unify his divided island, had talks Tuesday with Chinese President Li Xianmin in the Great Hall of the People. Mr. Kyprianou was greeted with a 21-gun salute when he arrived here Tuesday afternoon at the start of a six-day official visit. The official New China News Agency quoted President Li as saying Sino-Cypriot relations were very good and China respected Cyprus' policy of independence, sovereignty and non-alignment. But it did not say whether the Cyprus question was discussed in any detail. Mr. Kyprianou, who is accompanied by his Foreign Minister George Iacovou, will meet other Chinese leaders, including Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang during his stay. China has called for a negotiated solution to the Cyprus question and indicated disapproval when Turkish Cypriots declared independence in the north of the divided Mediterranean island last November.



Peace party appeals against ban

TEL AVIV (R) — An Arab-Jewish party favouring a Palestinian state Tuesday lodged an appeal in the supreme court against a ban on participating in Israel's July 23 election. The central elections committee last week disqualified the Arab-Jewish Progressive List for peace and the extremist Kach party of U.S.-born Rabbi Meir Kahane, which wants all Arabs out of Israel. Kach is to present its case to the supreme court Wednesday. The elections committee, whose members are parliamentarians, said both lists threatened the state and democracy. In its appeal, the Progressive List alleged "election fever" inflamed the politicians on the committee. It said its members were loyal Israelis but saw negotiations with the Palestine Liberation Organisation as the only solution to the Middle East conflict. Israeli newspapers have been almost unanimous in condemning the ban on the Progressive List.

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Boeker named new U.S. envoy to Jordan

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan Tuesday named Paul Boeker, a career foreign service officer, as the new U.S. ambassador to Jordan. He replaces Richard Viets. Mr. Boeker is currently a member of the State Department's Policy Planning Council. He was U.S. ambassador to Bolivia from 1977 to 1980 and has also served in Bogota and Bonn. Mr. Boeker, whose nomination must be approved by the Senate, goes to Amman during a lull in U.S. diplomatic efforts to achieve a regional peace settlement in the Middle East.

Arabs voice concern over U.S.-Israeli military exercise

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The Arab group at the U.N., in a letter published Tuesday, expressed concern at reports about the start of joint United States-Israel military manoeuvres under the strategic alliance between the two countries. The letter expressed "deep concern at these manoeuvres which will, unquestionably, increase Israel's military capacity and contribute to its aggressive policy against the Arab countries and the Palestinian people in the Middle East."

Former Argentine president arrested

BUENOS AIRES (AP) — Ex-President Gen. Roberto Viola was placed under arrest Monday in connection with the disappearance and presumed slaying of a scientist in 1978. Mr. Viola became the third of the four presidents who had served under the former military government to be arrested in connection with alleged human rights abuses during the regime's "dirty war" against suspected subversives or in connection with the nation's defeat in the Falkland Islands war. He was taken into custody during an appearance before Judge Luis Corbo, who is handling the disappearance case of Alfredo Giorio, a researcher at the National Institute of Industrial Technology.

Numeiri defends imposition of Islamic law

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt (AP) — Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri defended his imposition of Islamic law and blamed "communists" in the British and European press for congressional opposition to further U.S. military aid to his government. In an interview Tuesday with the Associated Press, Mr. Numeiri also revealed he has made contacts with opposition groups in the non-Muslim south in an apparent bid to divide rebels battling his government. Mr. Numeiri, who has been visiting Egypt since Wednesday, made his remarks following a call by three influential Democratic congressmen to hold up further military aid until the Sudanese government shows it is pursuing a policy of reconciliation with Christians and Muslims in the southern part of the country.

132 passengers released at Doha airport Iranian plane hijacked

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — A hijacked Iranian airliner left Qatar Tuesday for an unknown destination after two men who seized the plane on an internal flight freed all 132 passengers and some of the crew, officials said.

In Tehran, Iranian officials said the hijackers wanted political asylum in France. Aviation sources in the Gulf said the Iran Air Boeing 727 might be heading for North Africa to refuel.

The released passengers and crewmen were waiting in Doha airport transit lounge for some aircraft to take them back to Iran. When the hijacked plane was out of the Qatari air space, a government official told the Qatar News Agency that a special Iran air plane was to arrive later Tuesday to take the released passengers back to Iran.

He said that word first came from Bahrain that the aircraft was hijacked and circling over Bahrain's Manama International Airport at 1445 hours (1145 GMT).

He said that Doha airport's main runway was quickly blocked by fire engines, but the pilot of the hijacked aircraft appealed for landing permission because he was running out of fuel.

"The plane was allowed to land for humanitarian reasons," said the official. "Subsequently, all passengers were disembarked and

the aircraft was refuelled. Contact was conducted with the Iranian authorities to send in another plane for the passengers to return home."

On Tuesday, the official Iranian news agency, IRNA, said the hijackers were trying to proceed to France where they would seek political asylum.

The agency quoted Iran Air officials as saying that the aircraft was hijacked over the southern Iranian city of Shiraz, minutes before it was to land at the coastal town of Bushehr Tuesday afternoon.

As the plane touched down at Doha, more than a dozen armoured vehicles surrounded it, while officials initiated negotiations with the hijackers through control tower wireless facilities.

Three hours later, the passengers alighted along with six crewmen. The pilot, co-pilot and flight engineer along with the hijackers remained on board, airport sources said.

In Bahrain, the Associated Press quoted witnesses as saying they sighted at about the time of

the hijack two Saudi Arabian air force jetfighters intercepting an unidentified airliner headed south, in the direction of Qatar. They said it appears the hijackers had tried to land in Saudi Arabia but were driven away.

It was the second hijack involving Iranian aircraft in 15 days. Four Iranian military officers on June 11 forced the pilot of an F-27 Fokker navy transport plane to land at Bahrain airport, where it was refuelled and told to leave the country.

The hijackers then took the plane across Saudi air space to Egypt, where their request for political asylum was turned down. The plane ended in Paris, where the hijackers sought asylum and the French government agreed to consider their request.

The plane was returned to Iran with its four-man crew aboard. French authorities last July granted political asylum to a member of Iran's underground Mujahedeen-e-Khalq group who had hijacked a Boeing 747 jetliner to Paris with 371 passengers aboard.

The IRNA report noted that Tuesday's hijack came just three days short of the last Friday in Ramadan, at roughly the same point in the Muslim festival as the Iran Air Boeing 747 was hijacked last year with 371 passengers on board.

Iranian plane lands in Cairo

CAIRO (R) — An Iranian airliner which was hijacked on a domestic flight and refuelled in the Gulf state of Qatar landed Tuesday in Cairo, airport officials said.

They said the plane was first refused permission to land but was later allowed to do so after the pilot said he was short of fuel.

Cairo airport sources said the plane may be asked to take off after refuelling.

They said the plane had circled over Saudi Arabian airports but was denied landing. Other Gulf airports were also reported to have taken steps to prevent the plane landing in their countries.

Cairo had previously refused to give refuge to Iranian hijackers, apparently to preserve Egypt's efforts to end the 45-month-old Gulf war between Iran and Iraq.

Last weekend Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak called the hijackers brothers of the Arabs and said he would launch a new initiative in the next few weeks to end the Gulf war.

Israelis close Sidon, Tyre ports

SIDON, Lebanon (R) — Israeli troops Tuesday closed the southern Lebanese ports of Sidon and Tyre to all shipping after forcing vessels at berth to leave, port officials said.

The Israelis, who gave no explanation for the move, also stopped fishing boats from leaving the two ports. Scores of families in Tyre and Sidon depend on fishing for their livelihoods.

There was no word on when the harbours would be allowed to re-open.

On Saturday, military sources in Tel Aviv denied a report that Israel had cut sea links between the two ports and Beirut. But Sidon port officials said Tuesday the only activities at the harbour since Friday had been passenger services to Cyprus and the unloading of cargo ships from ports other than Beirut.

Seven Israeli officers inspected the port of Sidon at noon Tuesday, when seven ships were anchored offshore. Eight ships were waiting outside Tyre, 36 kilometres further south, the officials said.

Four killed, 16 injured in Beirut

Franjeh in Syria

BEIRUT (AP) — Artillery duels rocked the southern suburbs of Beirut and the hills overlooking the Lebanese capital Tuesday and police said four people were killed and 16 wounded.

Much of the overnight fighting raged around the Lebanese army garrison town of Souq Al Gharb where army troops and militiamen traded sustained barrages of rockets, mortars and tank cannon fire, police said.

Three persons died and seven were injured in the Souq Al Gharb hostilities on the first mountain ridge east of Beirut, while one person was killed and nine were wounded in the suburbs, according to police.

The crash of shellfire in both mostly Christian and mainly Muslim residential suburbs echoed through the rest of the capital Tuesday.

Each side blamed the other for starting the fighting that broke out shortly after newly appointed army commander Gen. Michel Aoun took over the top military post from Gen. Ibrahim Tannous on Monday.

The change of commanders was intended as a first step toward

Meanwhile, former Lebanese President Suleiman Franjeh arrived in the Syrian capital of Damascus.

"I am here to consult with President Hafez Al Assad on Lebanese affairs and to thank him for his assistance to Lebanon," said the pro-Syrian politician.

Mr. Franjeh, a Maronite Catholic, was accompanied by his son, Robert, and his son-in-law, Abdullah Rassi, who was named interior minister in the new national unity cabinet but has not yet taken up the portfolio.

A government source in Beirut who asked not to be identified suggested that Mr. Assad might try to persuade Mr. Franjeh to let Mr. Rassi join the cabinet on grounds that it might be expanded from its current 10-man size to include another Franjeh representative as well as more Muslim members.

Mr. Rassi, a Greek Orthodox, has not taken up his post because Mr. Franjeh has insisted on being represented by a member of his own Maronite religious community.

Israel admits 120 prisoners were kept from PLO exchange

TEL AVIV (R) — (Censored) — Israel failed to release 120 Palestinians who were to have been included in a prisoner exchange last November and has prevented the Red Cross from seeing them, an Israeli lawyer said Tuesday.

Felicia Langer, a lawyer, specialised in Palestinian cases, told Reuters she had appealed to the supreme court for the Red Cross and the families of the prisoners to visit them in Atlit prison, south of Haifa.

The Red Cross in Israel confirmed that despite repeated applications, it had been denied access to the prisoners since they arrived from Lebanon last November, when Israel exchanged 4,600 Arab prisoners for six Israeli soldiers.

Shmuel Tamir, a Defence Ministry official responsible for arranging prisoner exchanges, acknowledged that the 120 were taken to Israel from the Ansar prison camp in South Lebanon two weeks before the swap.

He said Israel had explained its views to the Red Cross that the deal included only those in Ansar on the day of the swap.

Mr. Tamir said the men all belonged to the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) and would probably be included in a future prisoner exchange with Damascus-based Palestinian groups and Syria.

Ms. Langer said her clients denied belonging to the PFLP-GC. She has visited four of the prisoners and has submitted their affidavits to the supreme court.

Gassan Zaidan, 27, a Lebanese Druze, said in his affidavit that on Nov. 13, he and about a dozen other Ansar detainees were taken from the camp and told they would be freed.

But they were then taken by bus and helicopter to an Israeli prison where, he said, they were beaten, deprived of food and showers and made to stand with their arms raised for hours at a time.

Ms. Langer said the three others told similar stories. She said she first learned of the prisoners when Mr. Zaidan's brother, who lives in the United States, contacted her because his brother had not been released from Ansar as expected.



His Highness Prince Faisal, the second son of His Majesty King Hussein, is sworn in as Regent before the King's departure for Saudi Arabia Tuesday (Petra photo)

Hussein arrives in Mecca

MECCA (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein, accompanied by Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat and Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, arrived in this holy city Tuesday where he was received by King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, members of the Saudi royal family and senior officials.

The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said the King, who was expected to perform the Umra pilgrimage at Mecca, Islam's holiest shrine, will also hold talks with King Fahd on various issues including the current situation in the

Gulf. The King visited the Gulf Arab states earlier this month and reaffirmed Jordan's full support for them in the aftermath of Iranian attacks against Saudi and Kuwaiti-owned tankers in neutral waters.

Saudi Arabia together with Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, are members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), now paying increased attention to defence needs following the Iranian attacks.

The King was seen off from Amman by His Highness Prince Faisal, the King's son, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akef Al Fayed, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, cabinet members and other senior officials and high-ranking army officers.

Before the King's departure Prince Faisal was sworn in as Regent. His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan is on a visit abroad.

PLO reconciliation moves reach crucial point in Aden

By Lamis K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The unity of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) hung in the balance Wednesday as Algerian and South Yemeni mediators were trying to talk both Fateh, the mainstream commando organisation under the PLO umbrella, a four-party "democratic alliance" within the PLO into accepting a compromise solution to convene the Palestine National Council (PNC) within two months.

A fifth day of tense talks were continuing into late Wednesday night amidst statements by Fateh officials that they will "freeze" an agreement on various political and organisational issues reached last Monday if the "democratic alliance" did not agree to hold the PNC session in two months.

The deputy commander of PLO forces, Khalil Al Wazir, who heads the Fateh delegation to the talks in Aden, told the Jordan Times in a phone interview that the talks will not advance any further if the alliance did not agree on the South Yemeni-sponsored compromise solution to hold a PNC session in two months.

Mr. Wazir described Wednesday night's session as the "final chance" for the alliance to state its position.

"If the alliance did not give its answer tonight Fateh will freeze the organisational and political agreement already reached," he said.

The Fateh official's statement

meant that if a compromise was not reached by Wednesday night the five Palestinian factions will find themselves back at square one after four rounds of difficult and intensive reconciliation talks in Aden.

Discord on fixing a date for the PNC, the Palestinian parliament in exile, emerged as the main stumbling block in the factions' endorsing a final agreement between Fateh and the "democratic alliance," which includes the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), the Palestine Communist Party.

While Fateh was pushing to fix a date for the PNC the alliance insisted that the PNC should not be convened until a comprehensive organisational and political agreement has been reached among all the PLO factions.

According to Mr. Wazir, the Fateh delegation was going to withdraw from the talks Monday but for the mediation by South Yemeni President Ali Nasser Mohammed. Later, the "democratic alliance" suggested that the PNC be convened in three months time. But Mr. Wazir said Fateh refused to agree to the proposal and told the alliance that the PNC should be held before Aug. 15.

President Mohammad met the representatives of the five factions twice Monday night and Tuesday morning and proposed a compromise settlement to hold the PNC meeting in two months time.

Mr. Wazir said that Fateh has accepted the Yemeni proposal and said that "the success or failure of the talks depended on the alliance's reply."

However, a senior official of the Damascus-based alliance said that "a successful agreement should include all factions in order to avoid a serious split in the PLO."

The official, who asked not to be named, told the Jordan Times that Fateh's persistence to limit "the PNC before a comprehensive agreement reflects the movement's quest to exclude the other factions, particularly the three Damascus-based organisations and the Fateh rebels from the PLO."

"Consequently, we shall never accept to convene the PNC before a comprehensive agreement is reached," he said.

Asked about the alliance position on the South Yemeni proposal the official said: "We are ready to accept it, provided Fateh agrees that our dialogue with the other factions continue in order to resolve the differences between Fateh and the opposition groups in Damascus."

The official was referring to a dialogue between the "democratic alliance" on one hand and a "national alliance" which includes Saiga, the PFLP-General Command, the Palestine Struggle Front and the Fateh rebels led by Colonel Sa'd Musa, who joined an armed rebellion against PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's leadership last year, in North Lebanon.

TASS: U.S. not serious over summit

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The Soviet news agency TASS said Tuesday the U.S. administration was not taking a serious approach towards the question of a U.S.-Soviet summit and was using it for propaganda purposes.

In an attack on comments by Assistant Secretary of State Richard Burt, the agency repeated earlier comments that the United States should realise a summit was a serious issue that had to be carefully planned in advance.

Mr. Burt told a congressional hearing in Washington Monday that President Reagan was ready for a summit meeting without preconditions.

Mr. Reagan had said earlier this month that he would no longer insist on conditions being right for such a meeting.

TASS said the White House was using the idea of a meeting between President Reagan and Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko

only as an electioneering tactic. "To use this question for temporary aims, to make a propagandistic sensation out of it, this is not taking a serious approach. But his is the kind of approach which has been demonstrated by Mr. Burt," it said.

TASS said the Soviet leadership in principle approved the idea of summit meetings.

However, it renewed earlier statements about the need for thorough preparation, which have been seen by U.S. officials as an indication that the Kremlin does not think the time is yet ripe.

Western diplomats in Moscow said it was highly unlikely Mr. Chernenko would agree to meet Reagan before the November U.S. presidential election as the Soviet leadership would not want to improve his chances in the poll.

U.S. offers secret talks

Mr. Burt also said Monday that

the United States has offered to resume arms-control talks with the Soviet Union in secret if the Kremlin prefers.

Mr. Burt told a foreign affairs subcommittee of the U.S. House of Representatives that the administration is looking for "any kind" of talks to resume the negotiations and was opening "a lot of different doors."

"So far the Soviet response has been disappointing," Mr. Burt said.

Several former government experts on arms-control talks have suggested in recent weeks that Washington and Moscow open a "back channel" to resume the negotiations, and the administration reportedly dispatched former National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft to the Kremlin to see if he could break the impasse.

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Gulf states opt to rely on air cover for shipping

BAHRAIN (R) — Saudi Arabia and its allies on the Gulf's western shoreline have opted for air cover as the best method of protecting shipping outside the Iraq-Iran war zone in the northern Gulf, diplomatic and shipping sources said.

They said chiefs of staff from Saudi Arabia and its five partners in the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) reached the decision during talks last weekend on how to best protect oil supplies in the waterway.

The sources said they opted for air cover, backed by airborne warning systems, after dismissing as impractical other options which they began considering after Iranian attacks on some of their tankers. These included convoy escorts and changes in tanker routes.

The GCC was set up three years ago to co-ordinate economic and military ties between member-states Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Bahrain, Oman and Qatar in face of the 1979 Islamic Revolution in Iran and the outbreak of the Iraq-Iran war in September 1980.

The sources said the past few days had seen unusually heavy air activity over the Gulf, with GCC warplanes flying at various altitudes over tankers calling at their ports.

As well as flight by four U.S.

AWACS (Airborne Warning and Control System) aircraft, the sources said Saudi Arabia's American-made F-15 jet fighters had in recent days been seen in single, double and triple formations over tankers plying the waterway and oil installations in the kingdom's eastern region.

Noting that the Saudis were the dominant force behind the new defence scheme, they said the F-15s were operating almost round the clock.

The Saudi Air Force, with F-15s comprising nearly a third of its 175 combat aircraft, proved more than a match for its Iranian counterpart when Saudi fighters shot down an Iranian F-4 on June 5.

The AWACS, flown by American crews since the early stages of the Iraq-Iran war, provide the Saudis with radar cover of foreign aircraft movements and Washington has said it would consider providing the information to other Gulf countries.

Altogether, the six council members have 300 combat planes, mostly far superior than Iran's 70

jets, the sources said. They said the chiefs of staff meeting, said by Kuwaiti officials to be the most important of its kind to date, also endorsed a plan to re-inforce shore-based air defences.

New anti-aircraft batteries had been seen this week moving to the shores of Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, the sources noted.

The six GCC countries, in the wake of attacks on Kuwaiti and Saudi-owned tankers in the Gulf, had considered whether to use new shipping lanes closer to the western shoreline and within the range of shore-based anti-aircraft missiles.

But the sources said that while a change in shipping lanes had been ruled out because of navigational hazards, shore-based air defences had been stepped up as a backup for air cover.

A senior Western diplomat said the six countries had adequate resources to set up an effective air defence umbrella, although full integration of their early warning and radar systems was still some way off.

He said Kuwait, the closest of the six states to the war's frontlines, was expected to take delivery this year of a French control system for its U.S.-made Hawk

anti-aircraft missiles. A London-based Saudi weekly, Al Majalla, said in its latest edition that Kuwait was expected shortly to ask the Soviet Union for anti-aircraft missiles.

Kuwaiti Defence Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah is due to start a visit to the Soviet Union on July 9.

Saudi Arabia, expected in 1986 to take delivery of the first of five AWACS it bought in 1981, has reportedly told the United States it will move to intercept threatening aircraft in waters beyond its territorial limits.

Saudi Arabia's Ambassador to Washington, Prince Bandar bin Sultan, last week declined to deny or confirm the existence of an extended Saudi defence line in the Gulf, saying only: "The attacks (on shipping) have stopped and somebody must have done something right."

The sources said air cover has apparently helped boost the number of tankers calling on Arab ports well inside the Gulf in from the low numbers which ventured that far at the height of the "tankers war" last month.

They said up to three tankers were currently calling at Kuwaiti ports every day, four at the Saudi ports of Ras Tanura and Jubail and one daily at Bahrain.

Kuwait urges Iran to end Gulf war

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait's ruler, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, urged Iran to respond to international efforts to negotiate an end to the Gulf war, which he said was sapping resources that should be used to free Palestine and Jerusalem.

In his traditional nationwide Ramadan address, he Monday night denounced "the arms and death merchants" who exploit wars, and expressed a wish for greater co-operation between brothers in Arabism and Islam. The Kuwait News Agency reported.

"You witness what extent the Gulf war has reached and how the

area of bloodshed from Islam and Arabism wounds has expanded and drained efforts that should have been directed toward liberating Palestine and Jerusalem," he said.

He said he hoped peace would be restored to Lebanon and that Arabs and Muslims would attain "further integration and the ability to implement decisions for their benefit."

On Monday — Kuwaiti Defence Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah said his visit to Moscow was aimed at balancing Kuwait's ties with the two superpowers.

Sheikh Salem, quoted by the Kuwait News Agency KUNA, was

apparently trying to dismiss speculation that his Moscow trip was meant to be a snub to Washington after U.S. refusal to sell Kuwait anti-aircraft Stinger missiles.

The Kuwaiti minister, who begins his Moscow trip on July 9, visited the United States in April.

He said Kuwait's defence policy was based on meeting arms requirements from "any source that does not set prerequisites."

Sheikh Salem, however, said his country had not been officially informed of the U.S. States' refusal to sell it the missiles, of which 400 were rushed to neighbouring Saudi Arabia last month.

Zia leaves for Mecca

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistani President Mohammad Zia ul Haq left Tuesday for a three-day visit to Saudi Arabia for an Islamic religious pilgrimage, government officials said.

They said Gen. Zia will perform the pilgrimage called Umra at the Holy Kaaba in Mecca and later visit Medina before returning home on Thursday.

No meetings between Gen. Zia and Saudi leaders are scheduled, the officials said.

Ghali, OAU head discuss Africa

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Boutros Ghali discussed African problems and ways of strengthening the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) Monday with OAU Acting Secretary-General Peter Onu, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Egypt, a founding member of the OAU, is trying to settle differences among member-states to help convene the next African summit conference, the date of which has not been fixed yet.

U.N. officials flee Lebanon after death threats

BEIRUT (R) — A U.N. agency providing relief for Palestinian refugees said Tuesday two of its senior foreign officials had fled Lebanon after death threats and warned that it might stop operating in the Beirut area because of a lack of security.

John Defraites, director for Lebanon of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA), said Geoffrey Shakespeare, a Briton, and Daniel Deasy, an Irishman, left after the threat was delivered last week.

"It said if they didn't leave within 48 hours their bodies would be found," an UNRWA source told Reuters. The handwritten note in English was signed by "Friends of the Palestinians."

A communiqué issued by UNRWA's Beirut office said it believed local staff, most of whom are Palestinian refugees, were involved in the threat and in recent

thefts and destruction of UNRWA vehicles in Beirut. The local staff had been warned by Mr. Defraites that "continued agency operations in the Beirut area could be in jeopardy."

Mr. Defraites had warned that "If it were necessary for security reasons to withdraw international staff, he would be obliged to consider suspending operations" in Beirut.

UNRWA has 2,400 local staff and 18 international staff in Lebanon providing health, education and relief services for 255,685 Palestinian refugees. But it stopped distributing emergency rations to 180,000 of them last month.

Mr. Defraites warned that if the Beirut operation closed down, 900 Beirut local staff would lose their jobs and 90,000 refugees in and around the city would lose welfare aid.

The source said UNRWA was

worried by the way the threat to Mr. Shakespeare and Mr. Deasy was delivered, indicating inside knowledge. Their vehicles were stolen from their residences on June 17 and found next morning outside Mr. Defraites' home with a letter to him in one of them.

The source said UNRWA was also worried by increased thefts of its vehicles in Beirut. Three have been stolen at gunpoint, including two last week, and the car of a foreign officer was battered by sledgehammer at the agency warehouse.

More cars were damaged when a shell from east Beirut hit the warehouse parking lot last Saturday.

The source had no explanation for the threats to Mr. Shakespeare and Mr. Deasy but said their jobs "sometimes require difficult or unpleasant decisions like hiring and firing and buying stores."

Mr. Shakespeare was administrative officer in Beirut and Mr. Deasy was acting supply and transport officer. Four other foreign officers remain in the city.

UNRWA's cancellation of emergency rations for 180,000 refugees at the end of April caused unrest in South Lebanon. A protest strike in Tyre stopped distribution for two weeks of rations to some of the 28,000 refugees still being supplied.

The source said financial problems forced UNRWA, which provides relief for two million Palestinian refugees in the Middle East, to cut back an emergency rations programme begun when Israel invaded Lebanon in June 1982.

UNRWA had a \$53 million deficit on its \$235 million 1984 budget by the end of April, forcing closure of the programme, the source added.

Greek ship suffers heavy damage in Gulf

DUBAI (R) — An Iraqi missile which hit the Greek tanker Alexander the Great on Sunday caused more damage to the ship than had originally been thought, necessitating discharge of its cargo, shipping sources said in Dubai Tuesday.

Sources close to the surveyors assessing the damage said the 330,869-deadweight-ton tanker now anchored off Ras Al Khaimah in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), had a hole in its side, three metres in diameter and had suffered damage from fire.

In Tehran, diplomats said the tanker had been caught in an Iraqi air attack while loading at Iran's oil export terminal at Kharg Island in the northern Gulf.

They said two of the terminal's berths had been set on fire, but the blaze was quickly put out and it

seemed damage to facilities was slight.

Earlier reports had said the Alexander the Great had been only slightly damaged by an Exocet missile and it had left Kharg after fire was brought under control.

The size of the hole suggested the missile, previously thought to have hit the ship without going off, had exploded, the sources said.

The sources said the cargo from the fully-laden ship would have to be discharged before repairs could be made.

In London, Lloyd's Shipping Intelligence Service said Tuesday the vessel had lost several thousand tonnes of oil from its number five port wing tank.

According to the agent for the Liberian owner of the ship, Nomikos (London) Ltd, a decision on

what to do with it would be made after salvage experts and surveyors had been on board.

It suggested one possibility might be to discharge its 300,000 tonnes of crude into lightening tanks off Sir I Island in the Gulf and then approach Dubai's dry dock.

Lloyds said leading hull war risk underwriters met late Monday to discuss reaction to the attack, but brokers said no new increases had been announced in premiums on hulls and cargoes from Kharg Island and other Gulf ports.

Surveyors were expected to submit a report Wednesday giving details of the damage, the shipping sources said.

In Tehran, an oil ministry spokesman said the ministry had not received an official report from

Kharg Island and could not confirm or deny that berths there had been damaged.

"The situation at Kharg is normal. The main thing was the Greek ship and that problem was solved," he said.

Shipping sources in Bahrain had reported a tug in the area at the time of the attack as saying smoke had been seen billowing in the vicinity of the "sea island" jetty where the Greek tanker had been loading oil.

Iran's President Ali Khamenei issued orders Tuesday for "resolving tensions in the Gulf region" after having received a briefing on the latest political developments in the Middle East by First Deputy Prime Minister Beshari Jahromi. There was no immediate indication as to what he had in mind.

U.N. chief to meet Arafat in Geneva

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar will meet Palestinian Leader Yasser Arafat in Geneva early next month, a U.N. spokesman said Monday.

"We do not yet have the date, but it will be in the early part of his (Perez de Cuellar's) visit to Geneva," he said.

The secretary-general will be in

Switzerland next week for U.N. meetings before he goes to Moscow for talks with President Konstantin Chernenko and Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, at their invitation.

The spokesman said the Moscow visit would take place between July 2 and 19 on a date yet to be determined.

He said the secretary-general

was continuing to brief delegates on the results of his recent five-nation Middle East tour, during which he sought a basis on which to end the long stalemate in peace-making.

The spokesman said Mr. Perez de Cuellar felt that the U.N. Security Council should be used as a negotiating forum for an overall Middle East settlement.

Libyan aide visits Yugoslavia

BELGRADE (R) — Libyan Foreign Minister Ali Abdul Salam Al Turki discussed bilateral co-operation and world political and economic issues with Yugoslav Foreign Minister Rado Dizdarevic in Belgrade Monday, officials said.

The two ministers paid particular attention to the situation in the Middle East, northern and southern Africa, the officials said. They urged new efforts aimed at ending the Iran-Iraq war and expressed serious concern with the situation in Lebanon, according to the officials.

Mr. Turki, who flew to Belgrade from an official visit to Greece, and Mr. Dizdarevic also called for preserving sovereignty, independence and non-aligned status for Cyprus, the officials said.

The two ministers pledged to continue improving bilateral ties and economic co-operation between their countries, they said.

Nine Turks seize U.N. office in Athens

ATHENS (R) — Nine Turks, masked but unarmed, briefly occupied the United Nations office in Athens Monday to protest against suppression of civil rights in Turkey.

A police spokesman said the group entered the office, located in the centre of the Greek capital, and occupied the ground floor of the building before they were arrested.

The demonstrators said they were supporting a group of Turkish political prisoners who are on a hunger strike to protest against suppression of civil rights in Turkey by the authoritarian military regime.

They unfurled a banner which said: "We are in support of the

political prisoners who are on a hunger strike until death in the Turkish jails."

Security police interrogated the group and then released them, the police spokesman said.

Meanwhile, sixty Turkish political exiles on Tuesday completed a 60-kilometre march to the Turkish embassy in the Greek capital and pasted up a resolution demanding "respect for human rights in Turkey."

The marchers, who set out Monday from a United Nations refugee centre in the seaside town of Lavrion, told reporters they were seeking an amnesty for political detainees in Turkey.

Wearing striped prison uniforms and carrying chains, they shouted "down with the junta (Turkish President Kenan) Evren" and "Freedom for Turkish political prisoners."

Later they delivered a similar resolution at the United Nations Information Office here.

In the past two months, more than a dozen political detainees are thought to have died in hunger strikes at Turkish prisons.

More than 500 Turkish political fugitives were granted political asylum in Greece following a military takeover in Turkey in 1980. Although Turkey returned to civilian rule last year, opponents of the government continue to seek refuge in Greece.

TV broadcasts boost Israeli campaign

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel's general election campaign received a major boost Monday night with the start of political broadcasts on state television featuring flags, jingles, smiling babies and a popular comedy trio.

The broadcasts were aired after Israel's supreme court ordered striking television staff to transmit the 40-minute show — one day later than first scheduled — despite a strike which has blacked out all other programming.

Eight of the 24 parties running in the July 23 election participated in the broadcast, each proclaiming its achievements since the last election three years ago.

With a musical jingle billing it "the banner of all the people", the

ruling Likud Bloc of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir portrayed its successes, including film clips of former Premier Menachem Begin signing the 1979 Israel-Egypt peace treaty.

The opposition Labour Party, its jingle proclaiming it "the only hope", took a slap at Likud economic policies and featured statements from party leader Shimon Peres, former Premier Yitzhak Rabin and former state President Yitzhak Navon.

Political commentators predict the television broadcasts will be crucial to the outcome of the election. The Likud, without Menachem Begin's oratorical skills, is expected to rely heavily on the television spots.

The latest public opinion poll, published in the Yedioth Ahronoth newspaper, showed Labour slightly increasing its lead to 54 seats against 39 for Likud in the 120-member parliament.

So far, the campaign has been overshadowed by Labour unrest caused by Israel's 400 per cent inflation. But the broadcasts are expected to give the campaign a major push.

Motti Fishman, an aeronautical technician, said the spots would not determine his vote. "It's attractive from the point of view of how it's presented," he told Reuters. "But I've already decided how I'm voting and it won't influence me."

TV & RADIO		WHAT'S GOING ON		FOR THE TRAVELLER		USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.	
JORDAN TELEVISION MAIN CHANNEL 18:00 Koran 18:20 Cartoons 18:45 Religious Programme 18:55 Local Series 19:05 Local Programme on Food 19:15 Religious Programme 19:30 Ramadan Puzzle 19:50 Kuwait Series 19:55 Religious Programme 20:00 Call to Prayer 20:05 Religious Programme 20:10 Programme Review 20:15 News in Arabic 20:20 Live Transmission of European Soccer Finals 22:00 Studio '84 23:00 News Summary in Arabic 23:10 Studio '84 (Cont'd) 24:00 Religious Programme FOREIGN CHANNEL 18:00 Les enfants du Monde 19:00 News in French 19:15 La vie des Autres 19:30 News in Hebrew 20:00 News in Arabic 20:30 Cowboys 21:10 Documentary 22:00 News in English 22:15 Hotel RADIO JORDAN 855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM & partly on 9560 KHz. SW 07:30 Light Music 07:30 Newsdesk 08:00 Morning Show 08:00 News Summary 08:05 Morning Show 11:00 Pop Session 12:00 News Summary 12:05 Pop Session 13:00 News Summary 13:05 Pop Session 14:00 News Bulletin 14:10 Instrumentals 14:30 Concert Hour 15:00 News Summary 15:05 News Summary 15:10 Old Favourites 15:15 Jordan Weekly 15:20 Pop Session 15:25 News Summary 15:30 Over a Cup of Tea 15:35 Music 15:40 News Desk 15:45 Date with a Star 15:50 Evening Show 15:55 News Summary 16:00 Evening Show		TODAY'S EVENTS EXHIBITIONS * Exhibition of paintings by various Jordanian artists at Al Ain Gallery. * "Le Carnaval De Nice" at the French Cultural Centre. CULTURAL CENTRES Royal Cultural Centre : Tel. 6610267 American Centre 44371 British Council 41520 French Cultural Centre 37009 Goethe Institute 41993 Soviet Cultural Centre 44203 Spanish Cultural Centre 24049 Purkan Cultural Centre 39777 Haya Arts Centre 665195 Husseini Youth City 667181 Y.W.C.A. 41793 Y.W.M.C.A. 665251 Amman Municipal Library 36111 University of Jordan Library 843555 MUSEUMS Folklife Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 19th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760. Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays. Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Mutasah, Jabal Luweibdeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128. Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240. Fossil Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc.		AMMAN AIRPORT This information is supplied by Alta Inflight information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (09) 53200, where it should always be verified. ARRIVALS 06:00 Cairo (MS) 06:40 Karachi (PK) 09:15 Dubai (RJ) 09:30 Agaba (RJ) 09:35 Doha (RJ) 09:45 Abu Dhabi, Kuwait (RJ) 09:45 Cairo (RJ) 12:25 Laraca (CY) 13:30 Dubai, Bahrain (GA) 14:00 Cairo (RJ) 14:10 Jeddah (SV) 17:00 Rio de Janeiro, Lisbon (AF) 17:10 Paris, Damascus (AF) 17:10 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ) 17:35 London, Paris (RJ) 17:40 New York, Amsterdam 17:40 Madrid, Geneva (RJ) 18:00 Rome (RJ) 18:30 Cairo (RJ) 18:30 Bangkok (LH) 19:50 Frankfurt (LH) 20:50 Cairo (MS) 08:45 Cairo (RJ) 08:45 Baghdad (RJ) DEPARTURES 08:10 Damascus, Frankfurt (LH) 08:45 Cairo (RJ) 08:55 Istanbul, Amsterdam (KL) 09:00 Athens (RJ) 09:15 Agaba (RJ) 09:30 Athens (OA) 09:40 Damascus, Rome (Adalia) 09:40 Cairo (RJ) 11:30 Vienna, New York (RJ) 11:30 Athens (RJ) 12:15 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ) 12:30 Laraca, Zurich (SV) 13:25 Laraca (CY) 14:30 Doha, Bahrain (GA) 14:30 Cairo (RJ) 15:40 Kuwait (RJ) 16:00 Jeddah (SV) 16:40 Baghdad (IA) 19:30 Kuwait (RJ) 19:40 Doha (RJ) 19:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ) 20:15 Jeddah (SV) 20:15 Baghdad (RJ) 20:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)		EMERGENCIES Ambulance 193, 77511 First aid, fire, police 199 Blood bank 77521 Civil Defence rescue 661111 Fire headquarters 22090-3 Police rescue 192, 21111, 37777 Police headquarters 39141 Traffic police 56390-1 Electric Power Co. 36381-2 Municipal water service 771125-8 Queen Alia Int. Airport (08) 53333 HOSPITALS Husseini Medical Centre 813813-32 Khaldi Maternity, J. Amman 44281-4 Al-Khaldi Maternity, J. Amman 42441 Jabal Amman Maternity 42362 Malika, J. Amman 36140 Al-Musharraf Hospital 66727-9 Shumaila Hospital 669131 University Hospital 84345 Der Al-Shifa, J. Husseini 667158 Al-Musharraf Hospital 66727-9 The Islamic, Abdali 665292 Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164 Italian, Al-Muhajireen 777101-3 Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111 Army, Marka 91611 GENERAL Jordan Television 73111 Radio Jordan 74111 Ministry of Tourism 42311 Hotel complaints 666412 Rice complaints 661176 Telephone: Information 12 Jordan and Middle East calls 10 Overseas calls 17 Cable or telegram 18 Repair service 11 MARKET PRICES Upper/lower price in fils per kg. Apples 350 / 300 Bananas 280 / 240 Bassana (Mukammal) 240 / 210 Beans 320 / 280 Cabbage 70 / 50 Carrot 130 / 100 Cauliflower (white) 220 / 180 Chick peas 100 / 80 Cucumber (large) 100 / 70 Cucumber (small) 180 / 150 Eggplant (large) 170 / 140 Eggplant (small) 150 / 120 Garlic 230 / 200 Grapefruit 170 / 130 Lemon 300 / 250 Mallow 70 / 50 Marrow (large) 100 / 70 Marrow (small) 160 / 120 Onion (dry) 140 / 100 Onion (green) 160 / 120 Oranges 440 / 400 Oranges (local) 300 / 180 Oranges 250 / 220 Parsley 100 / 100 Peas 400 / 350 Pepper (sweet) 500 / 450 Pepper (hot green) 380 / 240 Potatoes 140 / 110 Spinach 300 / 170 Strawberries 1200 / 1000 Tomatoes 240 / 200 Water Melon 100 / 80 Melon 220 / 180	

July 1st 1984

Court sentences corrupt government employees

AMMAN (Petra) — Four public servants have been sentenced to up to three years in prison and fined between JD 185 and JD 1,415 for accepting bribes, while two drug smugglers have also received prison sentences.

Mahmoud Muhareb Sa'id has been sentenced to three years in prison with hard labour and fined JD 1,415 after being convicted of accepting a bribe to break the law in his capacity as a government employee.

A second defendant named Mohammad Rashid Khalaf Khalaf Al Shabar has been sen-

tenced to three years in prison with hard labour and a fine of JD 200 on a similar charge.

Issa Mubeisen Ghazi and Awad Mohammad Awad were also sentenced to three years in prison and a fine of JD 185 for the same offence.

Two others, Abdul Karim Mohammad Khalil and Khaled Ali Mohammad, have each received six month prison sentences for trying to smuggle goods across the border.

The military governor endorsed the sentences Tuesday.

Failed businessman held on drug smuggling charge

AMMAN (J.T.) — Police have recently apprehended a Jordanian businessman who was involved in smuggling drugs into the country and neighbouring Arab states, according to a report in Sawt Al Shaab Arabic newspaper.

It said that the man, whose identity has been withheld, used to work as a money changer and hotelier, but also owned an office trading in real estate and speculating in gold and jewellery.

Of late, he concentrated on smuggling drugs until he was arrested, along with a group of other smugglers, and found in possession of six bags containing

drugs which had been hidden in a farmhouse, the report said.

It said that the businessman had sustained heavy losses in jewellery dealings and instead resorted to issuing cheques with no account to back them.

Estimates put his losses at JD 2.5 million, and this was covered by two big loans from two Jordanian commercial banks which have now filed law suits to recover their money.

According to the report, police will refer the man to court once their enquiries into the case have been completed.

Dentists body to attend international conference

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Dentists Association (JDA) will take part in an international conference on dentistry which is expected to open in Helsinki on Aug. 20.

According to a JDA spokesman, the conference will discuss diseases which affect the dentures and the gum.

The JDA delegation will submit a working paper to the conference outlining Jordanian experiences in the treatment of teeth and related issues, as well as the equipment used in Jordan for this purpose.

JDA's president Walid Maraga will lead the Jordanian team to the conference.

Vital telecom project gets goahead

AMMAN (J.T.) — Work on the 11.2 million regional axial cable project linking Amman with Damascus and Haqel in Saudi Arabia



Dr. Mohammad Al Zaben

will commence in 1987, Al Ra'i Arabic daily newspaper quoted Minister of Communications Mohammad Adnab Al Zaben as saying Monday.

Speaking about the project, Dr. Zaben said it is one of the most important of such regional projects, and constitutes a major part of the comprehensive communications plan for the Mediterranean area.

Because the project is viewed as a vital artery for earth communications, the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development has agreed to finance part of it having received a feasibility study commissioned in 1978 from an international consulting company, Dr. Zaben said.

Speaking about the services the project will provide for the three countries, Dr. Zaben said it would include telephone, telex and telegraphic services, in addition to

transmitting national and regional television programmes.

The project, Dr. Zaben said, consists of two parts. The first is the axial cable, which starts from Damascus and passes through Amman to the south of Jordan, while the second, the microwave net, will start from Amman and end in Haqel in the southern part of Saudi Arabia.

Tenders for both the axial and microwave projects were floated on April 21, 1984.

The project will be implemented in three stages to comprise the preparation of designs and specifications; the examination of tenders, and the execution of the project, which will take 24 months for the axial cable and 18 months for the microwave, Dr. Zaben added.

The microwave part of the work will cost JD 5.5 million, the minister concluded.

Population seminar slated

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will host a two-week training course on manpower and population surveys on Aug. 11, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said.

The course, which will be supervised by the Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA) in co-operation with the Baghdad-based Arab Institute for Training and Statistical Research, aims to enhance the ability of states to conduct their own surveys.

Representatives from several Arab countries will take part in the course, Petra added.

Meanwhile, a symposium on population will be held in Amman in August to discuss the results of the census conducted in Jordan in 1979 by the General Statistics Department.

It will also study results of fertility trends and family health which the General Statistics Department, in co-operation with the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), has carried out.

21 struck down by food poisoning near Irbid

AMMAN (J.T.) — A total of 21 people from the village of Hakama in the outskirts of Irbid have been rushed to the Princess Basma Hospital for treatment for food poisoning, a report in Sawt Al Shaab Arabic daily newspaper said Tuesday.

Director of the Health Department in Irbid, Dr. Mu'in Al

Ghoul, said the poisoning was believed to have been caused by foodstuffs consumed after the expiry date.

Dr. Ghoul said that health inspectors were sent forthwith to Hakama, accompanied by the police, to collect samples of the food suspected of causing the poisoning.

Tawjihi exams finish, results expected July 8

AMMAN (J.T.) — The second sitting of the Tawjihi (General Secondary Certificate examinations) ended in the East Bank of Jordan Sunday and the marking of the papers has already started.

Nearly 47,785 male and female students sat for the examination which marks the end of the 1983/84 scholastic year in Jordan.

Ministry of Education official said that 28,297 students took the

literary stream exams, 24,877 the scientific stream, 2,462 the commercial stream, 114 the agricultural stream, 1,461 the industrial stream, 265 the nursing stream, 205 the postal stream and 104 the hotel training stream.

The marking of examination papers is expected to end on July 8, after which the results will be fed into the computer as normal to compile the general examination results, the spokesman said.

Education Ministry to run extra curricular activities

Summer courses to broaden experience of students

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Education is opening vacation summer schools and extra curricula activity clubs for school students in Jordan this summer to offer them greater educational opportunities and to help develop their skills and hobbies, director of activities at the Ministry of Education, Tayseer Arafat, said here Tuesday.

He said that the ministry has prepared 70 clubs to accommodate nearly 10,000 male and female students on these summer courses.

Students will study for hours a day for four weeks and will train in typing, dress making, knitting, embroidery and sports, and will have sporting, cultural, social, technical, and voluntary work opportunities in addition to being encouraged to do such pursuits as drawing, painting and pottery during their courses which are due to start on July 7, Mr. Arafat said.

These courses and clubs are designed to widen the scope of activities and training open to students and to make good use of their free time in being able to learn and practice skills which will be of benefit to themselves and their society, he said.

The also aim to develop the students' spirit of collective responsibility and team work, and to forge a sense of belonging to their community, Mr. Arafat added.

Although the number of participants is considered very low, compared to the 622,000 students in the country, it is hoped that

more schoolchildren will join such summer activities in the future, and the door is now open for registration, Mr. Arafat pointed out.

Scout camps

Mr. Arafat also referred to the summer camps for scouts and guides and said that the ministry has made arrangements for seven such camps at Ajloun to house 2,000 members plus their coaches and teachers.

Jordan, he said, will also take part in an international scouting conference which will be held in Sweden. Between 40 and 50 scouts will participate in that conference which is due to be held in the coming month.

In addition, 10 leading scout members will take part in an international scouting camp which will be held by the Red Crescent Society in Turkey also in July, Mr. Arafat added.

'Oweidat promises extra resources for sports clubs

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Culture, Youth and Antiquities Abdullah 'Oweidat Monday expressed his ministry's interest in supporting cultural and sports clubs and in providing them with every resource capable of developing them.

Dr. 'Oweidat, who was speaking during a meeting at the cultural forum in Irbid with representatives of young people in the Irbid Governorate, reviewed the ministry's plans to support and take an active interest in such activities.

"The ministry will establish a youth centre in each village which has population of more than 5,000 people, to raise the standard of culture and sports in the various parts of Jordan," Dr. 'Oweidat said.

Director-General of the Jordan Youth Organisation (JYO) Mohammad Jamil Abu Al Tayyeb reviewed the future programme of his

organisation, saying that they are aimed at developing sports clubs and youth centres, and in giving them the opportunity to compete with foreign sports teams with a view to raising their standards.

Attending the meeting were Irbid Governor Turki Al Hindawi, members of the soccer committee and representatives of sports clubs in the governorate.

Following the meeting, the minister, accompanied by Mr. Hindawi and Mr. Abu Tayyeb in addition to a number of senior ministry officials, toured the Al Arabi, Al Hussein and Al Barha clubs as well as the Youth Activities Centre in the Irbid camp, for Palestinian refugees and the male and female youth centres in Irbid.

There they discussed with the supervisors the centres' activities, programmes and the problems they have encountered as well as possible ways of alleviating them.



Publishers to exhibit at festival

AMMAN (Petra) — Local publishers and book distributors will take part in the third Jerash Festival due to be held in August.

Representatives of local publishers held a meeting with Dr. Ahmad Shalkas, director-general of the Department of Libraries, Documentation and National Archives, here Tuesday to discuss arrangements for the exhibiting of their publications at the festival, which is due to be held at the Greece-Roman city between Aug. 24 and Aug. 30.

Dr. Shalkas said that only local publishers and distributors will be able to take part in the festival this year.

A children's corner will also be featured at the event as well as a reading tent and a full programme of cultural events, he said.

Jordan Times
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Seven-seater service taxis to save on fuel, roads

By Olga Mikhael
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The prime minister's office last month issued a law governing the status of service taxis operating between Amman and other cities and villages in Jordan and between Jordan and other neighbouring countries saying that licences will only be issued to long chassis, seven-seater cars.

"The logistics behind replacing five-seater cars with seven-seaters are that the passenger capacity will rise by 40 per cent while fuel consumption will increase by not more than 10 per cent."

Also the occupation of the road network will be economised by the same ratio," Mr. Ibrahim Badran, director of energy at the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism told the Jordan Times.

The 5,000 five-seater service taxis operating in Jordan provide transportation for 25,000 passengers, while 5,000 seven-seater cars would provide transportation for 35,000 passengers.

Fuel economy

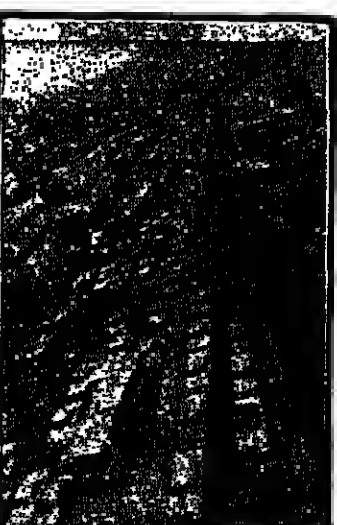
Fuel saving was the main reason behind the decision after studies conducted and recommendations made by the directorate of energy at the ministry.

"We don't have an indigenous source of energy in Jordan, we depend totally on imported oil which amounted to more than JD 200 million in 1983," he said.

"The annual oil consumption of the 5,000 five-seater service taxis operating at the moment is 100,000 tonnes," he added.

"Using seven-seater cars will save around 23,000 tonnes of oil every year or a money figure of JD 2.5 million per year. Also we will be saving around JD 250,000 in spare parts and maintenance of these cars," he continued.

According to the law, the present licensed service taxis will continue in service, but as they become obsolete, they will be replaced by seven-seater taxis.



Service taxi queue

The reason behind this slow process, which might take from between seven and 10 years, is not to upset the finances of small businesses and to give a chance to investors who have already started their own service taxi business.

"The ordinary yellow taxis operating in cities will have the same status as they have now," he added.

"Seven-seater cars are not the

solution to the transportation problem in Jordan, it will be but a step towards developing transportation in a more economical way," he said. "Our main concern is to save on fuel consumption", he added.

Oil imports

Jordan's 60,000 barrel a day oil requirement, is supplied from Saudi Arabia via the Tapline. But Jordan will start importing around one sixth of its oil requirement from Iraq according to a new agreement signed by Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism Jawad Anani on April, 23.

With this agreement, Jordan will start importing 1,300 tonnes of crude oil daily from Iraq which amounts to \$110 million per year.

Attempts to discover oil in Jordan have also been fruitful. "Our expected production of oil from the 'Jarma field south of Azraq will be around 1,000 barrels a day", Mr. Badran said.

Shale extraction

"Jordan also has another source of fuel which is oil shale. Different preliminary and feasibility studies

have been carried out and show encouraging prospects," he added.

It is possible but difficult to extract oil from shale, but new methods are being developed to make the process easier and cheaper.

Oil and gas occurs in rocks of all ages, though they are usually concentrated in structurally high rocks. Three things are essential for the accumulation of oil and gas in rocks if they are to be extracted profitably. One is an adequate reservoir rocks, impervious cap rocks and a trap which will prevent the escape of hydrocarbons to the surface.

The amount of oil extracted from the rocks depends on the porosity and permeability of rocks whether they are low or high. If permeability is low, the oil will just dribble slowly out of the rock and oil production will be too small to be viable.

"Oil shale is one of the most evident and ample natural resources in Jordan. It exists in dif-

ferent places in the north, middle and south of Jordan," Mr. Badran said.

"In Al Lajjun between Karak and Jaraneh, there are shale oil deposits of about 1 billion tonnes; in Jurf Darawish in the southern region, proven deposit of shale oil exceed 14 billion tonnes and in Sultania also in the south deposits exceed 1 billion tonnes", he continued.

"The amount of oil which can be expected to be extracted from the shale is almost 10 per cent of the amount of the deposit," Mr. Badran added. As well as being more economic, "we are also facing the problem of a shortage of drivers in Jordan, as it is we are employing drivers from Tunisia and other Arab countries, which is putting a burden of JD 2 million a year on us. The total saving in the future of fuel, spare parts and salaries will amount to JD 5 million per year without affecting the standard of transportation, Mr. Badran concluded.

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TIME

POLAND'S PASKUDA (Profile of Jerzy Urban, Warsaw's public spokesman)
SCOWLING VOTERS (Report on election for the European Parliament)
SAKHAROV: The man who won't go away (Mitterrand chides Chernenko)
NEXT TARGET, KUWAIT? (Gulf nation looks to its defence)

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- 1- Make sure that the name Moulinex is printed on the outside and all sides of the box. Also on the machine on the inside and on the catalogue and the guarantee certificate that are enclosed with the mixer.
- 2- Moulinex agency is not responsible for offering maintenance for simulated mixers which are not guaranteed by us, and therefore Moulinex Agency regrets that it cannot accept such machines for repair at its repair workshop.
- 3- Moulinex Agency will have to stop dealing with any merchant or store where simulated and unguine Moulinex blender mixers are sold.
- 4- The well-known Blender Mixer No. 242 which is produced in France is registered with the Ministry of Industry and Trade, in shape, cover and content, and the Moulinex Company is in the process of taking strict legal measures to prohibit the sale and marketing of mixers imitating Moulinex products and for the confiscation of all such mixers on sale in Jordan.

Moulinex

Jordan Times

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The garbage season

WE HAVE grown accustomed to listening to Israeli Prime Minister talk garbage, but now it seems he wants to talk to Jordan about garbage. Specifically, he said during a campaign visit to Filat a few days ago that Jordan and Israel should hold direct talks to discuss Israeli concerns about the possible environmental effects of a sewage treatment plant to be built in Aqaba, and of the new pipeline to carry crude oil from Iraq to Aqaba.

How cute. Mr. Shamir wants to talk about garbage? Is he worried that the little fishy-wishies on his side of the Gulf of Aqaba might be hurt by Jordan's economic and infrastructural projects? How strange that Mr. Shamir thinks talks are necessary to discuss Jordanian interests can go ahead unilaterally. Israel's plans to build a canal linking the Mediterranean Sea with the Dead Sea would cause serious damage to Jordanian industrial, agricultural, touristic and transport facilities in different parts of the Jordan Rift Valley. Israel's predatory stand on the use of the waters of the Yarmouk River are another case in point.

But this is an old trick, coming from an old warrior who likes to shoot first and talk later. His attempts to draw Jordan into talks on bilateral issues, whether political, economic or otherwise, smacks of political desperation. If Mr. Shamir wishes to talk, he will find no friendlier partner than Jordan if he is serious about talking on the full range of issues that concern all the Arab parties in conflict with Israel. Garbage and water are side-shows. The real issue between our two countries remains the denial of the rights of the Palestinian people. If Mr. Shamir or any other Israeli leader wishes to engage Jordan in a dialogue, he knows what he has to do. The Jordanian and Arab positions are clear: peace talks with Israel are possible on the basis of the principles of United Nations Security Council Resolution 242, the heart of which is the exchange of land for peace. We are willing to participate in an international Middle East peace conference, to negotiate the mechanics of peace and coexistence. Why, therefore, when we offer peace based on mutual rights, does Mr. Shamir prefer to talk garbage?

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: New Egyptian gesture

THE LEADER of the Egyptian opposition in parliament has called for the restoration of Arab solidarity and for reviving the joint Arab defence treaty. This is another voice coming from Cairo and calling on the Arabs to extend their hands to Egypt which must not be left out in the dark.

The new call is a living proof of Zionist and U.S. failure to keep Egypt out of the Arab fold for good. Egypt is opting to join the Arab camp and draw away from Zionist and American hegemony. In his statement, the opposition leader said that Israel has violated the Camp David agreement by invading Lebanon and by joining the U.S. in a strategic alliance. The Camp David agreement between Egypt and Israel is now meaningless and Cairo will not be satisfied by only recalling its ambassador in Tel Aviv but should also take other steps equal to this challenge.

As Israel insists on averting any negotiations aimed at restoring the rights of the Palestinians in their homeland, it must be clear that Egypt would not honour any previous agreement with Israel, particularly the Camp David agreement. As we witness Egypt's move away from the enemy camp, and as Cairo announces its commitment to the Arab Nation and its endeavours to serve its cause, we as Arab states should respond positively and end Egypt's isolation.

Al Dustour: Loathsome U.S. campaign

THE NEW campaign launched by the U.S. against the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) reflects new evidence of Washington's hostile attitude towards the liberation movements and the rights of peoples to determine their destiny and future. The U.S. has just launched a hostile campaign against the PLO, with slanderous attacks on its chief Yasser Arafat, in order to please the Zionist leaders and their agents in the U.S., and to win Jewish votes in the coming presidential election.

The campaign is designed to present the PLO's struggle for liberation as a terrorist movement. The campaign coincides with a stepped-up effort by the Israeli leaders to intimidate the Palestinians under their rule, and an escalation of Israeli policies to build settlements in the occupied Arab land.

These slanderous attacks on the PLO constitute a new development in Washington's continued hostile attitude towards the Palestinian people, and is an unjustified action by the U.S. against the Arab people and their just struggle. The U.S. is consciously proving itself a true ally of Israel and the Zionist movement and for no other reason than that an enemy of the Arabs in general and the Palestinians in particular looks as a good friend of the Zionists.

It is true that this campaign would not have emerged at this moment had the Arabs been more united but this campaign must not be allowed to weaken the position of the PLO and its leader. This campaign reflects the desperate position of our enemies and comes as a natural result of America's defeat in Lebanon and in Latin American countries which prompted it to seek a scapegoat to blame the PLO for the right target, because this organisation is the symbol of struggle against Zionism and Israeli oppression.

Sawt Al Shaab: Agreement should be cherished

DESPITE THE recent decisions taken by the various groups in Lebanon and the reform plan announced by the Lebanese government, armed groups are still clashing in the streets of Lebanon as if agreements to end the fighting are not of concern to them. These armed groups seem to insist on keeping Lebanon without its true Arab identity, divided and at the mercy of conspirators and Israeli invaders.

Of course, the reform plan and the agreement among the various warring factions to end the fighting and start re-building a new Lebanon is by no means equivalent to the tremendous loss of men and material wealth which Lebanon had sustained over the past 10 years. But the armed groups in the streets should be made to conform to the will of the people and their own leaders, and should prepare to unite in the face of the common Israeli enemy. Their efforts should now be mobilised towards construction and confronting the challenges which Lebanon had been and is facing.

Once the Lebanese are united, they can pressure Israel into withdrawing its forces from the South and thus national unity can be maintained.

Strange choice for re-uniting the Lebanese Army

By Andrew Tarnowski
 Reuters

BEIRUT — Lebanon's "national unity" government has appointed a tough, rightwing Christian general to reunite the country's fragmented army after months of sectarian fighting.

At first glance, Gen. Michel Aoun seems a curious choice to bring Muslim and Christian troops back together in a confessionally-balanced, politically neutral army.

Trained in the United States and France, he won his laurels fighting Muslim militias and has a reputation as a rightwinger and close friend of fellow Maronite leaders who have long resisted political concessions for Lebanon's Muslim majority.

At 49, Gen. Aoun is the army's

youngest-ever commander. As head of the crack Eighth Brigade, he has been the most successful field commander loyal to President Amin Gemayel in 10 months of hard fighting against Muslim militias.

He was appointed Saturday, in a compromise deal between sectarian rivals in the cabinet designed to end the fighting between their forces in Beirut.

Gen. Aoun and his 1,400 U.S.-trained troops, who fought hand-to-hand battles to hold precarious hillside positions, won plaudits for the feat from Western military observers.

But now Gen. Aoun must heal the wounds of sectarian war by re-integrating Christian and Muslim troops in an army in which many units split along con-

fessional lines during the fighting. The largely Shi'ite Muslim Sixth Brigade in Muslim controlled West-Beirut, has for months refused to obey the former Christian-dominated army command and some of its men are reported to be fighting alongside the leftwing militias.

According to Western military observers, the Sixth Brigade has been joined by about 5,000 opposition who have deserted from Christian-dominated units.

The Christian units, reportedly totalling up to 8,000 fighting men, are battling with right-wing militias against opposition forces along Beirut's "green line" battlefield.

Gen. Aoun's reconciliation role arises from a political turnaround that brought in the seven-week-old government of Prime

Minister Rashid Karami pledged to national reconciliation. It represents the main rival forces, including the Muslim militia leaders. To end the fighting, they want a neutral, confessionally balanced army to restore order in Beirut, disarm the militias and take over the South from occupying Israeli troops.

Gen. Aoun's "new" army is intended to represent all the rival forces, not fight them.

His first task is to start re-integrating selected units in Beirut and send them out to take over the streets so that the "green line" can be abolished and the city's mainly Muslim and Christian sectors reunited.

Muslim cabinet ministers only accepted Gen. Aoun's appointment after long arguments with President Gemayel, his close

friend. Political observers say he is more rightwing than Gen. Ibrahim Tannous, the outgoing commander whose dismissal was demanded by Muslim leaders for causing heavy civilian casualties and destruction in Muslim areas during the fighting.

Western military observers say Gen. Tannous is by far the best, most charismatic officer the Lebanese army has, and President Gemayel insisted that Gen. Aoun was the next best man to retain the loyalty of Christian troops and create a 50,000-man national force.

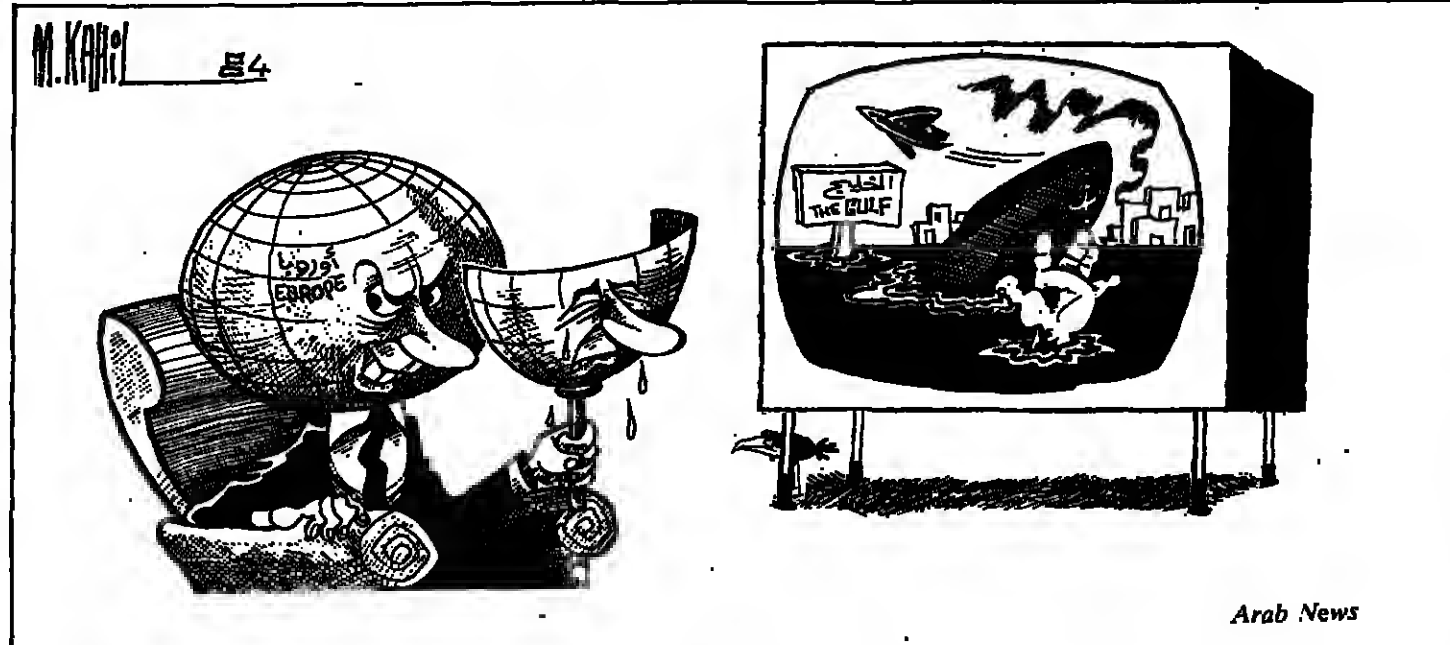
Mr. Gemayel warned that the troops might desert to the Christian "Lebanese Forces" militia if they feared the army would be emasculated under a weak com-

mand or used against Christians. The "Lebanese forces" have openly threatened to back any mutiny by Christian troops against radical changes in the army.

Mr. Gemayel also argued that like Gen. Tannous, Gen. Aoun was a friend of Muslim soldiers under his command. His brigade, in fact, was one of the few that did not suffer major Muslim desertions during the fighting.

Even so, it took Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam to persuade the Muslim leaders to accept the young general.

In exchange, Mr. Gemayel agreed to reforms under which he surrendered direct control of the army and Gen. Aoun must share command with a new military council representing five other sects.



Gulf war overshadows attempts at rebuilding Iran-Soviet relations

By Trevor Wood
 Reuters

TEHRAN — The Gulf war is overshadowing attempts by the Soviet Union and Iran to piece together a new working relationship after last year's Iranian accusations of Soviet spying and expulsion of Soviet diplomats.

A Soviet delegation is on a week's visit to Tehran, ostensibly to discuss co-operation in the energy field, and its discussions so far have been with Iranian power and electricity experts.

But diplomats here said Iran was not likely to miss the opportunity to press its case for a more balanced approach by Moscow to the 45-month-old Iran-Iraq conflict.

Deputy Power Minister Alexei Makukhin is the first Soviet official to visit Tehran since the ruling Iranian clergy outlawed the Communist Tudeh Party 13 months ago, alleging its leaders were spying for Moscow and expelling 18 Soviet staff from the embassy in the Iranian capital.

Moscow had repeatedly expressed support for the Islamic

Revolution in Iran and had offered aid without strings when Iran was hit by a Western economic boycott over the seizure of the American hostages in 1979.

But despite their recent cold relations, neither side appeared interested in lowering the temperature more than necessary and both sides now seem keen on boosting co-operation.

In a preliminary move to normalise relations on the political level, Iran sent a senior Foreign Ministry official, Seyyed Mohammad Sadr, to Moscow earlier this month.

Little emerged from his talks but official sources in Tehran made clear that one of his tasks was to raise the question of Soviet arms supplies to Iraq.

Moscow resumed arms supplies to Baghdad in 1982 after a two-year suspension following the outbreak of the Gulf war.

A leading Iranian politician, cleric, Hajj Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, recently singled out Soviet arms deliveries to Iraq as a sticking point in Iranian-Soviet relations.

The arms supplies are of particular concern to Iran at a time when it is feeling pressure on its own resources.

Diplomats in Tehran say Iran, largely politically isolated, is having difficulty replacing its heavier battle equipment — artillery and tanks — most of it U.S.-made and purchased by the Shah.

Referring to the Soviet delegations' current visit here, Majlis (parliament) deputy Sadeq Khalkali said Sunday: "They (the Soviet Union) should see how the Islamic Republic (Iran) is standing up to the United States and they should not provide Iraq with any more weapons or missiles which destroy our residential areas."

While Moscow is supplying Iraq with large amounts of weapons, Soviet allies such as Czechoslovakia are reportedly maintaining a supply of smaller arms in the Iranians.

Apparently trying to strike a delicate balance in ties with Moscow, Rafsanjani made a point of divorcing the arms deliveries from the issue of overall relations.

Noting the extent of Iran-Soviet

trade, he said in a recent speech: "We do not want our relations with the Soviet Union to be strained and they do not want it either."

"Of course, we object to their shipment of arms to Iraq. We are against their Afghanistan policy. But we should try to promote our relations and settle those disagreements."

Moscow's choice of a Power Ministry representative as its first emissary since the cooling of relations could hardly have been more appropriate for Iran.

With recent rainfall one-third less than normal and with power supplies hit by a shortage of spare parts for dams, the government has warned of drastic cuts in electricity and water supplies this summer.

The Soviet Union has promised to help Iran overcome its energy problems. The two countries are to build power plants on either side of the Aras River along their border west of the Caspian Sea, and are exploring ways of damming the Atrak River in the same area.

Tomorrow may be too late, warns Chernenko

American journalist Joseph Klagsbury-Smith put two questions to Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko on the Soviet Union's attitude towards tests on anti-satellite weapons in space. Following are Mr. Chernenko's answers as published by Moscow News weekly.

Q: When the House of Representatives in the U.S. Congress was examining the Reagan administration's military programmes to be financed under the 1985 military budget, it passed an amendment banning the allocation of money for testing American anti-satellite weapons in space, provided the Soviet Union and other countries refrain from holding such tests. In view of this, will the Soviet government agree to freezing tests on anti-satellite weapons for another year or more on a reciprocal basis with the United States?

A: It is evident that this House of Representatives amendment reflects the concern felt by American legislators that the arms race may spill into outer space. There is every reason for such concern. The basic issue at the present time is as follows: the militarisation of space has to be prevented, or else it will become a source of serious danger threatening the whole of mankind.

As for the Soviet Union, this country has been consistently advocating that outer space be kept peaceful. Seeking to facilitate this goal last year the Soviet Union undertook a unilateral commitment not to launch anti-satellite weapons into space; in other words, it introduced a unilateral moratorium on such launches as long as other states, including the USA, refrain from putting anti-satellite weapons of any type in orbit. This undoubtedly includes the test launches of anti-satellite weapons.

The moratorium declared by the Soviet Union is still in force. At the same time, for all its usefulness we regard this moratorium as being only the first step towards a complete ban on anti-satellite weapons, including the elimination of existing systems. It is for this very reason that we are proposing that the United States and the Soviet Union start official talks over an agreement to this effect.

The specific proposals which the Soviet Union has made on this issue are well known. They enjoy support among an overwhelming majority of U.N. member-states. Only the American government is against.

Q: Would it be possible to introduce an effective monitoring of a freeze on anti-satellite weapons?

A: The Soviet Union is all for this.

Thatcher bows to Zionist pressure

By Peter Mansfield

LONDON — So Mrs. Margaret Thatcher has accepted an invitation to become president of the recently formed North London area council of the Conservative Friends of Israel. Some may not find this very significant. After all, Mrs. Thatcher has represented her Finchley constituency, with its substantial Jewish population, for many years and she was a founder member of the Conservative Friends of Israel.

Although the Jewish vote under the British electoral system has nothing like the importance it enjoys in the United States it can be influential in some areas.

During the general election campaign in Britain last year the senior rabbi of Finchley said in a radio interview that Finchley Jews who number about 8,000 — just about the size of Mrs. Thatcher's majority — had been deeply offended by a recent meeting between Douglas Hurd, minister of state at the foreign office, and Farouk Kaddoumi of the PLO, and that they might all vote against her. In the event, of course, they did nothing of the kind and Mrs. Thatcher was re-elected with an increased majority.

However, there is another aspect of the affair. When in 1967 the Council for the Advancement of Arab-British Understanding (CAABU) — roughly equivalent to the conservative Friends of Israel but all-party — was founded, Sir Ian Gilmour became one of its two co-chairmen. But when the conservatives won the 1970 elections and Sir Ian became a minister as CAABU chairman, believing this was incompatible with his ministerial office. Naturally, it did not mean he had changed his well-known views on the Palestine

question.

It is therefore astonishing that the prime minister should have accepted the Friends of Israel presidency. Arab ambassadors in London are understandably surprised and concerned. No one seriously expects her to admit she was wrong — that would be uncharacteristic. But the incident does raise some interesting questions about the working of the Zionist lobby in the West — and in Europe, in particular.

I have always argued against theories of vast Jewish conspiracies aimed at world domination through the power of Jewish finance. They are misleading and simplistic.

Zionist influence works in many different ways but (a) it is not uniformly successful (b) it often has nothing to do with finance or economics but is more concerned with ideas and education and (c) it does not necessarily depend on the Jewish communities of the Diaspora.

In relation to the last point, for example, there are a number of Cold Warriors close to President Reagan who are neither Jewish nor especially sympathetic to Jews (they may well be anti-Semitic) and they do not depend on Jewish support in elections, but they generally believe that Israel is the best protector of American interests in the Middle East against the Soviet Union.

However, it cannot be denied that in the West the Zionists have an enormous advantage vis-a-vis the Arabs in the existence of local Jewish communities who in their overwhelming majority are supporters of Israel although a minority of them may be critical of Israel's policies.

In Britain and France Zionist influence operates in ways that are similar although it naturally varies

according to circumstances in the two countries.

In France, with the left in power, it makes use of the long-standing ties between the French Socialist Party, left-wing intellectuals and Israel. Francois Mitterrand's attitude towards the Middle East has been ambiguously expressed since he became president but no one can doubt his deep-seated sympathies for Israel.

The case of Linnel Jospin, secretary-general of the French Socialist Party, is typical. He recently told a Jewish radio station in Paris that he thought the French Embassy in Israel should move to occupied Jerusalem and that there should be no official ties with the PLO. No doubt if the Israeli Labour Party regains power the French Socialists will lean even more towards Israel.

In Britain the situation is different in that Zionist influence in the British Labour Party, at one time supreme, has greatly declined so that Labour Zionists find themselves on the defensive. Here again the return of Labour to power in Israel would make some difference but British Socialists' disillusion with Israel has gone too far to be reversible.

The Conservative Party and the British establishment as a whole is the important target for Zionist influence. A few months ago Walter Goldsmith, head of the Institute of Directors, told a Jewish audience that now that British Jewry provided three senior members of the cabinet in addition to the occupants of various influential posts in politics and business such as the chairman of the BBC, chairman of the Monopolies Commission, etc., it ought

to assert itself more and ensure greater British support for Israel.

One would have thought that this was precisely the kind of talk that would seem to justify conspiracy theories about Jewish influence. But what was interesting was that Goldsmith was obviously dissatisfied with the scale of Zionist influence in Britain.

The fact is that the Zionists are by no means having all their own way with the present British government. Over 50 Conservative MPs have joined the pro-Arab Conservative Middle East Council and their numbers are growing. The Zionists detested the two previous foreign secretaries Lord Carrington and Francis Pym and they are wary of Sir Geoffrey Howe — especially since his remarks about the need for Israel to talk directly to the PLO which aroused the anger of Secretary of State Shultz.

Mrs. Thatcher herself acquired a well-known distaste for Begin on first acquaintance and it is doubtful whether she feels any warmer towards Shamir, the former anti-British terrorist. All this makes it the more surprising that she should have accepted the offer of the Conservative Friends of Israel. She has shown insensitivity in foreign affairs before but this is not sufficient explanation.

Without exaggerating the importance of the affair, it is one more proof that the Arabs have not yet learned effective means of countering Zionist influence in the West even in areas where they have means at their disposal. Mrs. Thatcher dislikes Israel's government and she knows the importance of the Arabs to Britain but this has not stopped her from taking this action to offend them. — Arab News, Jeddah.

LETTERS

Kashmir issue unresolved

To the Editor:

MR. GEORGE Hawatmeh's article on Kashmir (Jordan Times, June 23) contains a glaring misrepresentation of facts which needs to be corrected to set the record straight. The state of Kashmir, contrary to what the article asserts, has never become a part of independent India. It has, in fact, remained a disputed territory ever since Indian troops entered the "Land of dreams from another world" on the basis of an unfair deal with the Hindu ruler of the predominantly Muslim state. However, in response to U.N. deliberations on the issue, the government of India agreed to withdraw its forces and to hold a plebiscite in Kashmir. Pandit Nehru, the then-prime minister of India, wrote to his Pakistani counterpart on Oct. 31, 1947 that "our assurance that we shall withdraw our troops from Kashmir... leaving the decision regarding future of the state to the people of the state, is not merely a pledge to your government but also to the people of Kashmir and to the world". Later, on Jan. 5, 1949, the U.N. Commission for India and Pakistan adopted a resolution which stated that "the question of the annexation of the State of Jammu and Kashmir to India or Pakistan will be decided through the democratic method of a free and impartial plebiscite". However, the U.N. call went unheeded and the plebiscite was never held.

The dispute over Kashmir is the main irritant in Indo-Pakistani relations which Pakistan is actively pursuing to resolve amicably. Its efforts, at times even unilateral, including the recent offer of a no-war pact with India, are directed towards this end. However, these are indicative of Pakistan's honest desire for peace with its neighbour rather than of the Kashmir dispute having evaporated with the passage of time.

Information Section,
 Embassy of Pakistan,
 Amman.

Vadim: The man who cannot have everything



French director Roger Vadim

French director Roger Vadim's recent films have been savaged by critics, for reasons sometimes not connected with his clutch of ex-wives (Brigitte Bardot, Anne-Marie Stoyberg, Jane Fonda and Catherine Deneuve), on the subject of whom the poor chap is required to preen himself at the drop of a recording button. And now he has talked himself into making an American version of his first success, to be called *God Created Woman* 1985.

Puffing his way through a packet of fags in his Waldorf Hotel suite, he looked a well preserved 56. His spoken English is of the Maurice Chevalier school, despite his frequent trips to California to visit his two daughters (by Stoyberg and Fonda) and the occasional American film.

He was in London for the publication of his first novel, *The Hungry Angel*, which has impressed French and American reviewers with its delicacy of touch and poignant insight into wartime Paris. So I quickly re-assured him that I would not ask the usual boring questions about his women. Just some new ones.

With his track record, why hadn't he tried an ordinary or even an ugly wife for the sake of a stable relationship? He saw this as a misconception. "People think that an ugly woman has less opportunity to betray a man. From what I've

seen, ugly women are sometimes worse than a beautiful woman in their marriage."

But hadn't physical perfection been a fateful provocation in his experience? (His first two wives deserted him for Sacha Distel). On the contrary, he replied. "I think it helps the marriage in the sense that the physical aspect of the marriage, the erotic aspect, is very important. I never heard that to have good sexual relations with your wife will harm the marriage. Maybe I'm not normal, but I have a tendency to prefer to make love to a beautiful woman."

A friend of his was once quoted as saying that Vadim had always wanted to arouse envy in others. Four marriages and Catherine Deneuve on, had that turned out to be a pity? He said that he was somebody who had been "aggressed," who had not been forgiven for his marriages nor for an apparent lifestyle of anarchic freedom. "We really invented the beginning of St. Tropez. Everyone wanted to be part of the group and were not accepted."

The *Hungry Angel* goes a long way towards explaining how the Bardot generation sprang fully formed out of the suppressed vitality of wartime Paris. "With the liberation we felt like a bird who has just opened the cage. But more than that, conscious that this

moment of grace was not going to be for long. The atom bomb had been thrown on Hiroshima, we were involved in Indo-China and the Cold War had started. We really did want to get the best of it. His novel is the story of Julien, a 16-year-old drama student who follows Vadim's own route to

fame from the Charles Dullin Theatre in Paris to film directing. The two girls in Julien's erotic young life are fictional but many of the characters are autobiographical, he says. He gives a tantalising glimpse of a ballet student named Brigitte. Julien mingles with Vadim's old ac-

quaintances — Collette, Juliette Greco, Piaf and Jacques Prevert. Vadim spent most of the war at his step-father's rented farmhouse in the French Alps, near the Swiss border. "My step-father, who was half-English, would send information to London. We hid some Communists, Jews and young

people who were trying to escape the Germans. I personally helped people go across the Swiss border."

The SS, in the company of a French officer, burned his best friend to death, locked inside a barn with some villagers. He has included the incident in his book, a deliberate reminder of French collaboration. "The underground existed but it was in the minority. After the liberation it was in the majority," he said sardonically. "I have seen one collaborator cutting the hair of a poor girl who had a German lover for a few weeks. This guy had been sending people to Dachau."

He moved to Paris and enrolled at the Charles Dullin Theatre. After three years and some good notices he realised he couldn't stand the repetition of performances. He became a film assistant "because I didn't want to have a job where I would have to wake up each morning at the same time." Curiously his encounter with Bardot ushered in a period of professional rectitude. Pressure from her parents forced him into marriage and a "respectable" job at Paris Match. "We were a bunch of young gangsters there," he recalls.

He directed his first film *Et Dieu Créa La Femme*. The rest was history, being repeated now with *God Created Woman* 1985.

— a title on which Warner Brothers insisted "because they only believe in what has made money". It will be completely different, he insists. For a start, he's not shopping for another Bardot.

He complains of being unfairly labelled, but here he is in the same old groove. He also plans to make an American film, *Murder in St. Tropez*. The truth may be that he is not given much choice these days. He confesses to dissatisfaction with his two most recent American films, one made for cable TV, the other ending up with a Chinese producer "the worst experience of my life. I don't want to talk about it." And in France he finds the familiar recipes of comedies and detective stories depressingly narrow.

Some of his films were in advance of their time, he says, pointing to the fact that *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* is on the curriculum of U.C.L.A. Universities beseege him with requests to lecture. "I don't feel I'm a teacher. I'm not ever going to get involved in intellectually abstract films or social movies. That's not my style and I don't intend to change."

As he headed for a restaurant he remarked what a relief it had been not to discuss women. But I was pondering an earlier comment. "You can't have everything in life," he said. "I've accepted that." — The Guardian.

French minister launches American-style drive to rescue European cinema

By Mary Ellen Bortin
Reuters

PARIS — French Culture Minister Jack Lang arrived in Luxembourg Friday for talks on saving the West European film industry, carrying an unexpected message: Imitate America.

Mr. Lang, who drew protests two years ago when he called for a "crusade" against U.S. cultural imperialism, now says Europe has only itself to blame for an influx of transatlantic imports threatening its cinema.

"I would say that Europeans themselves are primarily responsible for the crisis of cinema in Europe by choosing the easy way out, by importing instead of producing," Mr. Lang said in an interview with Reuters.

"I say, on the contrary, let's imitate America's spirit of enterprise, its spirit of adventure and the conquest of new intellectual frontiers."

Mr. Lang has gone to Luxembourg armed with a series of proposals to put to France's partners during the first formal meeting of the European Community's culture ministers.

He bills the trip as a consciousness-raising mission aimed at making Europeans wake up to the consequences of neglecting the health of their audiovisual industries.

It is a vicious circle: Television broadcasting and video cassettes of new films have brought a sharp decline in cinema attendance, and the drop in box-office receipts has in turn brought movie production to a near standstill in some countries.

Mr. Lang said: "In Italy, which was the world's second producer of cinema, the situation is very sad — both production and attendance have dropped by half in two years, and many Italian filmmakers are condemned to go abroad to work or look for money."

Attendance is even worse in Britain, where the annual number of movie-goers has plunged 95 per cent from 1.2 billion in the 1950s to 60 million today, according to community statistics.

In Italy, Britain, West Germany and the Netherlands more than 50 per cent of the film spectators choose American.

French cinema, boosted by big government subsidies, was doing better, Mr. Lang said. But Europe as a whole had submitted to brutal competition from the new media, while an immense market in the United States has been able to absorb the shock.

The Luxembourg meeting was organised by France, current president of the community.

Mr. Lang said his proposals include:

— Creation of a European development fund for films and television, including co-productions by two or more countries.

— Joint action in the fight against pirate videocassettes.

— European agreement on preventing television broadcasts of new films during a fixed period after their release to cinemas.

Mr. Lang denied his initiative aimed to set up protectionist barriers against American film imports.

He said: "I am not pleading for restrictions but development. This

is what I said in Mexico: Mobilise your creative forces."

He was referring to the speech he made at a United Nations world conference on cultural policy in Mexico in July 1982.

The minister, now 43, sparked an international row when he asked whether the cultural destiny of the world has to become "the vassals of an immense empire of profit."

In retrospect, Mr. Lang says, the message is still valid. But his tone is different now.

"You can choose a more elegant way to say it but the figures speak for themselves: The United States is a dominant economy, and why should it be ashamed?" he said. "European countries are to be reproached for not being active enough."

But Mr. Lang, who has sharply criticised the popular U.S. television programme "Dallas" as anti-intellectual, said his call on Europe to imitate the United States did not mean copying its products.

"In content, Europeans must be themselves," he said.

Mr. Lang said he also planned while in Luxembourg to raise the issue of cross-boundary satellite transmission of television.

"This is an unprecedented technological development. If we want to preserve the identities of our countries we cannot remain passive," he said.

Mr. Lang said he felt the possibility of Europe being flooded with mediocre low-cost television programmes demanded that the Europeans set up a "balance of terror" by posing by initiative their own satellite programmes to avoid being "invaded."

Farrah builds a battered image

By Stephen Farber

LOS ANGELES — The green paint on the house is peeling; the lawn consists of little but patches of dried brown weeds; the fence that once surrounded the backyard lies broken on the ground. This house in Pacoima — a depressed working-class neighborhood north of Los Angeles — is obviously a long way from Farrah Fawcett's usual habitats.

But in the movie she is shooting for NBC-TV, "The Burning Bed," Fawcett plays a part totally unlike the glamorous roles for which she is known. Based on a book by Faith McNulty, the film is a dramatization of the true story of Francine Hughes, a battered wife who finally killed her brutal former husband, was tried and was acquitted by reason of temporary insanity.

One of the show's executive producers, Jon Avnet, says, "When we bought the book, we knew that Farrah was interested in playing the part, and we talked to her about it. We told her it would mean working with no makeup, going completely against her image, and she was willing." The show's director, Robert Greenwald, adds, "Farrah has pushed herself to the limits. She's wanted to make this as gritty as possible."

The first order of business was to tanish her physical beauty, and she has gamely gone along with the plan. Much of the job of reshaping Farrah Fawcett's face fell to the makeup artist Fred Blau, who has known the actress since he worked on her first film, "Myra Breckinridge," in 1970. "Her features are absolutely perfect," Blau notes. "To disguise her face is difficult for me. It's like putting your foot through a Rembrandt."

Among his techniques have been blackening the actress's eyes, creating bruises on her cheeks, neck and arms, and adding a false, crooked tooth to her mouth

"to take away from her Popsicle smile," in Blau's words. "This is not as severe as the makeup on De Niro in 'Raging Bull,' but it's similar," he says.

The makeup is only the first step in a more complete transformation that the actress hopes to achieve. Filming a climactic fight scene with her husband played by Paul Le Mat, Fawcett looks gaunt and bedraggled, and she approaches the confrontation with unmistakable intensity. Between shots, Fawcett pauses for a moment and comments, "This is the scene that leads up to her killing her husband. I know where it's going, and it's starting to get to me. I'm feeling very sad."

The film crew has taken over a house in Pacoima that is probably not unlike the house in Michigan where the actual story took place. Greenwald felt it was important to shoot in a real house rather than on a studio set because, as he says, "working in these cramped surroundings with 40 technicians adds to the sense of claustrophobia that I wanted."

There have been some unexpected disadvantages to filming on location, however. The company did not learn until shooting had already begun that the next-door neighbors kept 10 peacocks in their backyard, and the squawking of the birds started to interfere with the sound recording. Eventually the producers came up with an unorthodox solution: they spiked the peacocks' feed with alcohol, and the birds dozed off.

Greenwald used some unconventional techniques to build emotional intensity, and Fawcett co-operated. For a scene in which Francine's husband locks her in a closet, Greenwald locked Fawcett in a closet for half an hour before beginning to shoot the scene. When she was filming the courtroom scenes, Fawcett sat in the same hard-backed chair for four hours at a time, and Greenwald feels that the strain and exhaustion she felt strengthened her performance.



Farrah Fawcett: Putting a foot through a Rembrandt

ilar meetings with men who had been the assailants in these relationships. "Hardly a day goes by when we don't refer to something we observed in those sessions," Greenwald reports. "They helped all of us to understand the dynamics of these relationships."

Before beginning to shoot, Greenwald insisted on two weeks of rehearsals with Fawcett and Le Mat — far longer than the usual rehearsal time for a television movie. Once shooting began, Greenwald used some unconventional techniques to build emotional intensity, and Fawcett co-operated.

For a scene in which Francine's husband locks her in a closet, Greenwald locked Fawcett in a closet for half an hour before beginning to shoot the scene. When she was filming the courtroom scenes, Fawcett sat in the same hard-backed chair for four hours at a time, and Greenwald feels that the strain and exhaustion she felt strengthened her performance.

"The Burning Bed" tells the story of Francine Hughes, a mother of four children who lived intermittently with her husband for 14 years, including after a divorce. In 1977, after enduring a series of vicious beatings, she set him alive while he slept.

Greenwald hopes that the film will illuminate rather than exploit the problem it addresses. He says: "I tell the actors that we're looking at the dark side of the myth of our culture. I don't think this is just the story of a miserable victim beating his wife."

Greenwald concedes that some of his colleagues were dubious when they learned that Fawcett would be attempting such a dramatic change of pace from some of her cotton-candy roles. But he has ignored the skeptics, admitting, "I like challenges." — International Herald Tribune.

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Arbitrators detail plan to end German strike

LUDWIGSBURG, West Germany (R) — Arbitrators seeking to end the conflict over shorter working hours in the West German metalworking industry said Tuesday they had proposed a cut in the working week to 38.5 hours from next April.

Chief arbitrator Mr. Georg Leber told reporters the proposal would be considered by employers and union leaders later Tuesday.

More than 450,000 workers have been idled and car production has been halted since the metalworkers' union IG Metall began strikes on May 14 for a five-hour cut in the industry's standard 40-hour week with no loss of pay.

Mr. Leber's statement followed a 21-hour session of the eight-man arbitration panel in Ludwigsburg, near Stuttgart.

Mr. Leber said the shorter week should be valid for 18 months and would provide for greater flexibility on working hours from plant to plant and for different groups of workers within them.

Workers would receive a 3.9 per cent pay rise to compensate for loss of income from the fewer hours, plus a further two per cent general wage increase.

Inflation next year is expected to be about three per cent. Mr. Leber expressed confidence Monday that the plan could provide the basis for a settlement. Employers have so far rejected any general cut in the 40-hour week.

If both parties to the dispute accept Mr. Leber's proposal in principle, they have up to six days to consult their members on whether it should be binding.

The union, Europe's biggest with 2.5 million members, is leading a labour movement campaign to cut the working week generally by five hours.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — The market closed lower in minimal trading with prices drifting on lack of interest. Wall Street's weak opening contributed to the downturn and dealers said worries over interest rates continued to undermine sentiment. At 1500 hours the F.T. 100 index was down 9.3 at 803.4.

Fall among leaders ranged to 8p as in BTR at 422. Distillers lost 6p to 294. P and O 5p to 281 and ICI eased 2p to 566. Glaxo, however, rose 5p to 865. North American stocks were mixed.

Government bonds ended above the lows showing falls of 1/2 point after bargain hunting. Dealers said prices showed little initial response to the £650 million issue of new treasuries.

Oilseeds were quietly lower showing falls ranging to 12p as in Briofil at 211, responding to weaker spot oil prices and fears the enterprise oil flotation may be undersubscribed, dealers said. B.P. fell 10p to 456 and Shell 8p to 613. Golds were lower.

Banks eased in line with the rest of the market but remained overshadowed by Latin American debt worries. Midland ended 5p off at 297 and Barclays 3p down at 444. Among insurances London and Manchester dropped 10p on news its bid 1928 investment trust is not to be referred to the U.K. Monopolies Commission, while brokers Vint fell 8p to 154 after results. Initial closed 12p up at 497 on the agreed bid from Bet which fell 3p to 234.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.3514/25	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3124/27	Canadian dollars
	2.7950/60	West German marks
	3.1480/90	Dutch guilders
	2.3300/10	Swiss francs
	56.86/89	Belgian francs
	8.5800/50	French francs
	1714.25/1720.25	Italian lire
	237.35/45	Japanese yen
	8.1985/2035	Swedish crowns
	7.9725/75	Norwegian crowns
	10.2425/75	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	369.00/369.50	U.S. dollars

EC summit resolves British budget row, W. European spokesmen say

FONTAINEBLEAU, France (R) — European Community (EC) leaders reached agreement Tuesday on a long row over Britain's budget contributions which brought the 10-nation bloc to the brink of financial crisis, Dutch, French, and Italian spokesmen said.

British officials were not immediately able to confirm the accord but diplomats from other nations said Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher had agreed to a package deal.

"I can't confirm there has been an agreement. It is not yet finalised and is still under discussion," a British spokesman said.

French spokesman Mr. Michel Vauzelle confirmed that all national delegations had agreed on a budget rebate for Britain. "It's a community agreement between the 10," he said.

The announcement on behalf of President Francois Mitterrand, chairman of the meeting, indicated that last-minute hitches had been ironed out.

Full details were not immediately available but diplomats said the deal involved a fixed repayment for 1984 and a three-year progressive formula for 1985-87 under which Britain's rebate would be based on two-thirds of a reference figure.

The row over Britain's rebate has dominated the last three EC summits and diplomats said Mrs. Thatcher was under heavy pressure to settle.

The British spokesman said there was a reasonable chance of agreement on a system which would give Britain a bigger refund than Mrs. Thatcher was offered at the last summit in Brussels in March.

Diplomats said there was still uncertainty over the willingness of West Germany to pay its full share of the refund to Britain and this could delay the final settlement.

West Germany, the biggest paymaster in the community, would be the largest contributor to the British refund.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl is demanding the agreement of his partners for a tax subsidy to his farmers and diplomats said it was clear the two issues were linked despite official West German denials.

Diplomats said Britain would receive a rebate of \$800 million for 1984 and in the ensuing years two-thirds of the difference between its value added tax payments to Brussels and its receipts from the community.

For 1983, the year used for reference calculations, this would have produced \$860 million.

Diplomats said the exact figure used for calculating the British refund would be 65 per cent of Britain's net payments — considerably less than the 70 per cent at least that Mrs. Thatcher was reported to be seeking.

Complete settlement of the British budget issue, at least for the next three years, would open the way for hitherto blocked reforms, including an increase in community resources next year, and would also ease a looming cash crisis.

The community's so-called

Qatar, B.P. and CFP sign gas project deal

DOHA (R) — Qatar formally signed an agreement with the British Petroleum (B.P.) group and Compagnie Francaise des Petroles (CFP) for development of its huge offshore north gas field. The agreement was signed here Monday night by Qatar's minister of finance and petroleum Sheikh Abdul Aziz bin Khalifa Al Thani and B.P. Gas General Manager Colin Webster and CFP Middle East Manager Bernard Madimer. Under the Agreement, B.P. and CFP will each have a 7.5 per cent equity in a \$6 billion liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) plant which is expected to have a daily production of two billion cubic feet when it goes on stream in seven years' time.

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27, 1984

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A wonderful day and evening for you to consider all mental and intellectual phases of what you want to do and to let those who can be helpful with such plans be aware of them.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Handle communication and travel affairs and solve any problems wisely. Later you can be with trusted pals and enjoy a mutual hobby.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Get into the practical and monetary part of any interests you have so that you can command a greater income in the future.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You are thinking clearly and should know what to do to gain your finest ambitions. Make sure that your car is running well.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Early go to see advisers who have been helpful in the past and gain more good ideas from them.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Contact clever friends and state your aims; they can help you to attain them. Shop around awhile before purchasing.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Fine day for handling your regular work in a clever way and gaining more profit. Listen to suggestions of an expert.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Many new ways of expanding are now in your subconscious so make good use of them and get fine results.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Be efficient at whatever reports you have to make and show that you are precise. State your desires to the one you love.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Listen to what others have to say today even though you usually monopolize the conversation; learn a good deal.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Get busy and use every angle you can so that you become more proficient at your regular work.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) A good day to plan future recreations that will ease tensions, but get something set up for the evening also.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Although the situation at home is not exactly as you want it to be, you can turn adversity into benefits.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... be or she will have much talent at selling and should have a good education along varied subjects so that he or she can tackle just about anything upon reaching adulthood and make a success of it.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!
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Bank of England sees no reason for general rise in interest rates

LONDON (R) — The Bank of England declared Tuesday there was no need for a general increase in domestic interest rates, signalling that Europe should not be panicked into following the latest prime rate increase by U.S. banks.

The American move, which has drawn howls of indignation from Latin American countries now faced with finding a lot more money to service their loans, boosted the dollar Monday to its highest level against the West German mark since January and sent the pound sterling to a record low.

Although Hong Kong's major banks announced Tuesday they were raising their prime rates one per cent to 13 1/2 per cent from Wednesday, the Bank of England said in an exceptional statement it saw no need for British rates to rise on monetary policy grounds.

The bank's move, which followed a slight decline in the dollar's value, was regarded by the money market as an attempt to provide a "steady influence" in extremely nervous conditions.

Britain's National Westminster Bank did raise its base rate by 1/4 per cent to 9 1/4 per cent, but this only brought it into line with its major competitors.

Britain, West Germany and other European countries have been striving to keep their interest rates down, fearing a rise could abort their fragile economic recovery. However, the differential in

U.S. and European rates, more than six per cent for West Germany and 3 1/2 per cent for Britain, has been a major factor in pushing up the dollar.

Despite Tuesday's dollar decline, dealers said the currency was still strongly underpinned by U.S. prime rates, which the banks raised by 1/2 per cent to 13 per cent for their best customers. It was the fourth rise this year.

The dollar is still the currency to invest in, they said.

Dealers in London, where sterling hit a record closing low Monday of \$1.3510, said that apart from interest rates, the dollar was also supported by recent data showing U.S. economy growth is stronger than originally thought and that inflation remains under control.

However, the prospect of a solution to the West German industrial conflict over a 35-hour week had been enough to take the steam out of its rise, according to Frankfurt dealers.

A definite solution to the dispute, which has probably cost three billion West German marks (\$1.07 billion) according to the West German Bundesbank, might be enough to force a dollar decline of one to two pfennigs, said some dealers.

The dollar, which traded early Monday at 2.81 marks, its highest level since January, opened Tuesday at 2.7980 and moved erratically down during the morning

to around 2.7930.

Sterling also improved slightly from Monday's lows, rising to \$1.3525 from opening levels of 1.3523.

The Swiss franc, which traded at up to 2.3440 francs to the dollar Monday, improved sharply Tuesday to 2.3255, while the yen was selling at 237 to the dollar after hitting its lowest point of the year Monday at 239.

Despite its current strength, the dollar is expected by foreign exchange experts to decline later this year.

Speakers at a conference arranged by the London Financial Times said they expected rates to ease when the U.S. recovery slows, but saw little likelihood of a large drop.

In the short-term at least, America's trading partners benefit from a strong dollar because it boosts their competitiveness in the U.S. market. It weakens America's ballooning trade deficit, however.

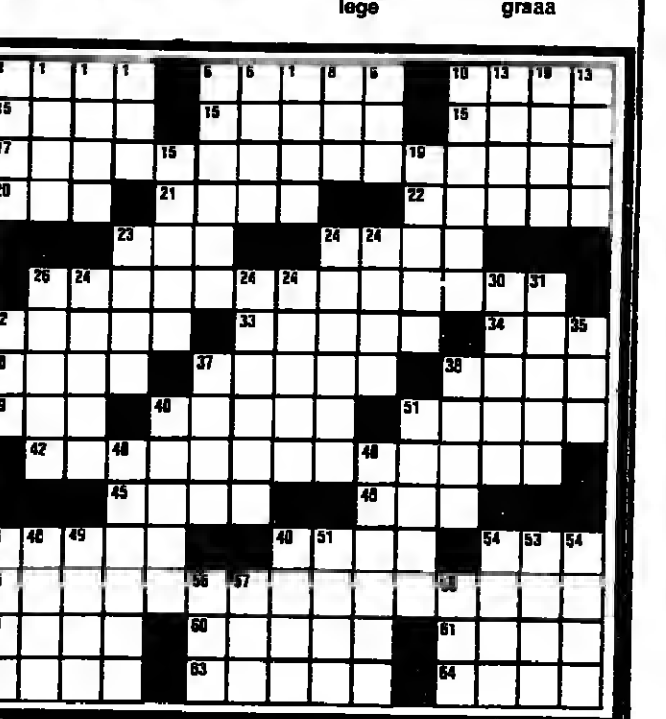
White House criticises U.S. financial community

Meanwhile, in Washington, the White House sharply criticised the U.S. financial community following the increase in the interest rate.

Latin American countries expressed bitter disappointment. Mexican Finance Minister Jesus Silva Herzog said the move appeared to be a reprisal against Latin countries for meeting to discuss

THE Daily Crossword by Frank R. Jackson

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| ACROSS | 26 Early movie comic | 47 Neckpiece in Scol. | 24 Among the misadventures |
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| 22 Zodiac sign | 42 Poolroom expert | | 40 Hopeless mix-up |
| 23 Respectful title | 43 Melze units | | 41 Frequently |
| 24 R — Roger | 44 Relative of inc. | | 43 Orange oil |
| | | | 44 Winged |
| | | | 47 Stage presentation |
| | | | 48 Onion |
| | | | 49 School: abbr. |
| | | | 50 Tops |
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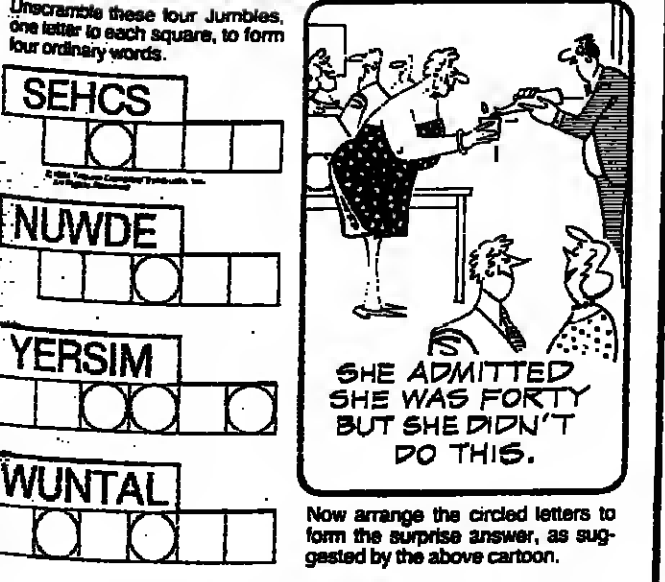
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THE BETTER HALF By Harris



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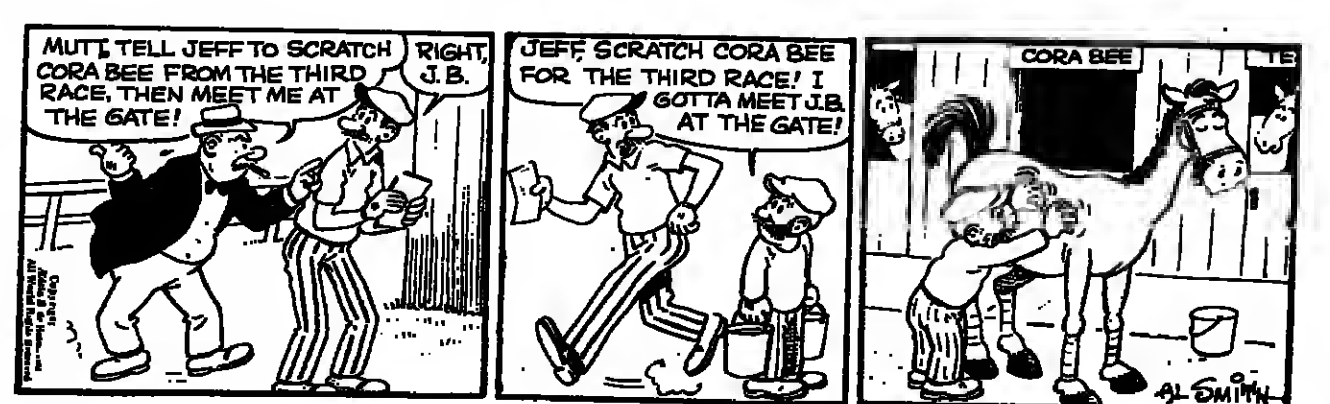
Print answer here:

Yesterday's Jumbles: CATCH HEFTY FIZZLE GARBLE
Answer: What the guy who thought he was a wll was—ONLY HALF RIGHT

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Reagan strips rebel funds, opens talks with Nicaragua

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan Tuesday showed signs of knuckling under to political reality on Nicaragua, backing down on his earlier demands to Congress for extra cash for Nicaraguan rebels and opening talks in Mexico with the Sandinist government.

The 88-1 Senate vote Monday night stripping \$21 million in extra 1984 aid for the rebels from a \$1.1 billion supplemental spending bill was a clear defeat for Mr. Reagan.

Initially the president said he would veto the bill if funds for rebels seeking to overthrow the Sandinist government were deleted.

But Senate Republican Leader Howard Baker said Mr. Reagan had come to "accept this course of action" as it became apparent that if the White House and its allies insisted on keeping the Nicaragua aid in the bill they were likely to lose.

In Mexico, Washington's Special Ambassador to Central America, Harry Shlaudeman, discussed policy differences Monday under tight security with Nicaraguan Deputy Foreign Minister

Victor Hugo Tinoco.

An official communiqué issued in the Nicaraguan capital of Managua said the talks were "an effort by Nicaragua to normalise relations with the United States", but the U.S. government kept silent on the meeting.

Mr. Reagan's problem in the Senate was two-fold: As support for the controversial aid to rebels eroded in Congress, election-year pressure has built for domestic programmes which the bill also funded, including \$100 million for summer youth jobs and \$845 million for child nutrition.

"If we keep them (Nicaragua aid and the domestic programmes) in the same bill, we would doom summer jobs in our country," Illinois Republican Senator Charles Percy said.

The Democrat-controlled

House last month rejected 241-177 the extra \$21 million in Nicaragua aid and it had become clear that money for the domestic programmes would remain held up if the dispute over the rebels' money, which the Senate has supported, continued.

It was unclear if the House would have to act again on the bill the Senate approved or if it could go right to Reagan for his signature.

Mexico, which hosted the meeting, has been active in diplomatic efforts to defuse Central America's crises. Mexican Foreign Minister Bernardo Sepúlveda greeted the participants but did not sit in on their talks.

Even before they began, high-ranking Nicaraguan officials expressed scepticism over prospects of an end to the U.S.-Nicaraguan confrontation.

The conflict is rooted in Washington's assertion that the government in Nicaragua is fomenting the war waged by guerrillas against the U.S.-backed government of El Salvador.

In what U.S. officials have des-

cribed as an attempt to pressure the Nicaraguans into ending this support, Washington is arming and financing an estimated 10,000 right-wing insurgents who have vowed to topple Nicaragua's ruling Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) by force of arms.

The talks in Manzanillo coincided with reports of fresh fighting between Sandinist troops and rebels of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN), the biggest of the U.S.-backed rebel groups.

An FDN communiqué issued in Honduras, the operational base of most of the insurgents, said the rebels had killed 65 Nicaraguan troops in an ambush 130 kilometres south of the Honduran border.

Sandinist doubts that the talks would end the bloodshed were reflected in a weekend speech by Interior Minister Tomas Borge. "We don't have high expectations," he said, adding that Washington did not appear inclined to change its policy on Nicaragua.

Castro honours Jackson with personal welcome

HAVANA (R) — Cuban President Fidel Castro gave black U.S. civil rights leader Jesse Jackson the rare honour of a personal welcome at Havana Airport — and expressed a measure of goodwill towards Washington.

Rev. Jackson, running a distant third to Mr. Walter Mondale and Sen. Gary Hart in the race for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination, arrived in Cuba from El Salvador Monday night on the third leg of a Central American peace mission.

Mr. Castro strode forward to shake a beaming Jackson's hand at the foot of the airliner's steps.

Asked at a brief airport news conference why he had invited Jackson to visit Cuba, Mr. Castro replied: "I invited him out of our friendship with the United States. He honours us with his visit."

Asked if he would do anything during the visit to improve icy U.S.-Cuban relations, Mr. Castro replied: "possibly."

Diplomats said Mr. Castro's appearance at the airport was a rare honour for a non-head of state.

Before his arrival Rev. Jackson said he would appeal to Mr. Castro to free at least 20 alleged political prisoners. He said in Panama Monday that such a gesture would be a major step towards normalising ties with the United States.

President Reagan has accused Mr. Castro of threatening peace in Central America, supporting leftist guerrillas in El Salvador and acting as a proxy for Soviet subversion.

Rev. Jackson said at the airport that the United States and Cuba "must renew their friendship and ties."

He added: "We must talk with each other, not at each other and turn to each other, not on each other."

"Whatever conflicts there may have been in the past we must forgive each other, respect each other and move on. We must give peace a chance," he said.

Mr. Castro, dressed in his customary green fatigues, smiled warmly at Rev. Jackson when they met. They then posed for cameras,

clapping hands. Mr. Castro staring directly into Rev. Jackson's eyes.

Rev. Jackson and Mr. Castro are due to hold four hours of talks Wednesday on topics ranging from violence in Central America to the alleged Cuban political prisoners.

Rev. Jackson aides have speculated that Mr. Castro might free some detainees as a result of Rev. Jackson's plea but admitted they had no firm indication of such a move.

In San Salvador, Rev. Jackson met President Jose Napoleon Duarte, head of the U.S.-backed Salvadorean government.

Salvadorean guerrilla representatives had told Rev. Jackson in Panama before he left for his six-hour stay in El Salvador that they were willing to travel to San Salvador immediately to meet Mr. Duarte and discuss a ceasefire.

Mr. Duarte said the rebels had taken up a new moral stance and promised to relay the news to his people. He did not elaborate but he has in the past suggested holding a referendum on a dialogue to stop the civil war, now entering

its fifth year.

"We are mindful of the delicate balance this president has as he pulls together a nation divided by war," Rev. Jackson said after the meeting.

Mr. Duarte described his 1-2 hour discussion with Rev. Jackson as "very fruitful" and said he was pleased with the black civil rights leader's "moral offensive."

But he said he was not prepared to accept the guerrillas' offer of a cease-fire talks immediately.

"My position is I will not negotiate with arms over the table because I don't believe in the violence of the minority imposing on the majority," Mr. Duarte said.

The four points which were raised during the meeting were the possibility of a cease-fire, the willingness of the guerrillas to talk about a cease-fire directly to San Salvador, their willingness to accept a 21-point Central American peace plan advanced by the four Contadora Nations (Mexico, Panama, Venezuela and Colombia) and their desire that no preconditions be set for the discussions.

At least 45 Peruvian villagers killed by rebels

LIMA (R) — At least 45 villagers were killed and several others injured Tuesday by Maoist guerrillas in the Andean province of Ayacucho, Peruvian Television said.

It said the remote mountain village of Paiccha, 740 kilometres southeast of here, was attacked by members of the Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) Group. No details were given.

The report followed a weekend

offensive in which police sources said the guerrillas hit at least 10 towns and killed up to 50 people.

The television said fierce fighting between security forces and a group of about 500 guerrillas was continuing around Paiccha.

More than 3,000 people have died in Sendero Luminoso's four-year-old campaign to topple the elected government of President Fernando Belaunde Terry.

Afghan guerrilla leader returns to Panjsher Valley

NEW DELHI (AP) — Afghanistan's renowned guerrilla leader Ahmad Shah Masoud reportedly has returned to Panjsher Valley and has directed a series of rebel attacks on Soviet positions in the strategic northern Afghan region, Western diplomats said Tuesday.

Mr. Masoud, who slipped out of Panjsher before a major Soviet offensive in late April, went back on June 12, and apparently commanded at least two attacks which took place mid-June, the diplomats said.

Meanwhile, insurgents stepped up their activity in the Afghan capital of Kabul last week, attacking a number of military posts with mortars and rockets.

Soviet occupation forces in early June raided Paghman, north of Kabul, in a major operation to flush out resistance fighters. Hundreds of rebels were reportedly crushed and large quantities of arms, including anti-tank rockets and heavy machine guns, were seized.

Quoting reports from Kabul, the diplomats said rebels led by Mr. Masoud attacked Soviet positions in Bazarak and Khenj, both side valleys of Panjsher, provoking Soviet troops to conduct helicopter and MiG jet bombing raids in the area for three days.

Casualties, if any, were not immediately known.

Active in Panjsher, Mr. Masoud is Afghanistan's best-known guerrilla leader and before the April Soviet offensive was able to control the 160 kilometre gorge which controls vital supply routes between Kabul and Moscow.

He reportedly evacuated most of his forces from Panjsher before the offensive. Western diplomats earlier said he was planning a counter-

attack at a place and time of his own choosing.

His fighters attacked a Soviet force of 250 men at Khenj on June 19, forcing the Soviets to retreat to Bazarak, the diplomats said without giving details.

Despite the attacks which occurred in the upper valley of Panjsher, the lower parts of the valley were reported to be free of fighting, and the Afghan government was launching a rehabilitation programme to restore normalcy in the region.

Under the programme, at least 200 school teachers arrived from Kabul in early June, construction of several buildings was under way, and a large number of health, education and irrigation officials have been sent to help return life to normalcy, said the diplomats whose reports could not be verified immediately.

Soviet troops also have cut off major escape routes in the valley and were encamped in most of the major side valleys, making it difficult for rebels to carry out large-scale attacks.

The diplomats, however, could not say how Mr. Masoud managed to slip into Panjsher under tight Soviet security.

Soviet helicopter gunships also reportedly bombed Panjsher's main valley floor and the Andarab Valley, a major side valley, around June 15 and 16, in an apparent effort to prevent Mr. Masoud's fighters from returning.

The Andarab Valley is now said to be jointly controlled by soldiers of the Babrak Karmal government and a former Masoud fighter, known only as Joma, who was driven from the valley by Masoud in 1983 and reportedly co-operated with Soviet forces in the April offensive.

Sikh extremists kill man in Punjab

NEW DELHI (R) — Sikh extremists gunned down a man in Punjab as security forces arrested 21 people in a drive to round up extremists in the state, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported Tuesday.

Quoting police sources, PTI said extremists Monday night entered the man's house in Faridkot district on the Pakistan border and shot him dead. It gave no personal details about the man.

The killing came as the army continued its mopping-up operations in the state following its storming of Golden Temple in Amritsar on June 6 to flush out Sikh extremists.

Soldiers Tuesday patrolled sen-

sitive areas of another troubled part of India, Bombay, where an official spokesman told Reuters that more than 300 Hindus and Muslims were arrested Monday and Tuesday.

He said the move was aimed at heading off communal trouble following the killing of a Hindu in the city last week.

Troops were deployed last month in Bombay following Hindu-Muslim clashes in which 268 people died.

The spokesman said the detainees would be held until July 2, when the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan ends. Ethnic trouble was possible during the festival of

Eid which marks the end of Ramadan, he added.

In the northeastern state of Assam, bomb blasts hurt three people and sabotage of railway tracks disrupted trains Monday. The incidents, also including road blockades, were part of a continuing protest by ethnic Assamese against illegal immigrants from nearby Bangladesh.

Assamese are demanding eviction from the state of what they say are nearly 3.5 million illegal immigrants.

Two people were killed and 21 injured on the last protest day called by the anti-immigrant campaigners a month ago.

Walesa may quit if prisoners freed

WARSAW (AP) — Lech Walesa said Monday Solidarity's boycott of June 17 elections "obliged" him to continue as union leader but hinted he would step aside if Communist authorities freed hundreds of political prisoners held in Polish jails.

Mr. Walesa said the turnout for the nationwide voting, the lowest in 40 years of Communist rule, reflected "the social wishes and desires."

"I am unequivocally obliged to remain at my present position strengthening efforts to carry out the pledges of August 1980," The 1983 Nobel Peace Prize winner said by telephone at his apartment in the Baltic port of Gdansk. He referred to the agreements between the government and striking workers that legitimised the Solidarity Labour Federation.

Mr. Walesa, reading from a prepared statement, continued: "after the faithful children of

August leave prisons I will put my position at their disposal with a possibility of turning it over."

The 40-year-old shipyard electrician has hinted several times in the past that he would step down as union leader, but Monday's statement appeared to be his most explicit offer.

Among the 601 political prisoners the government acknowledges it is holding are 11 top Solidarity advisers and leaders, including three who ran against Mr. Walesa for the union chairmanship during Solidarity's first and only congress in the fall of 1981. The three are Andrzej Gwiazda, Marian Jurczyk and Jan Rulewski.

The 11 Solidarity advisers and leaders have been the subject of intensive behind-the-scenes negotiations between the government and the Roman Catholic Church in freedom in return for pledges to

abstain from political activity for several years.

All 11 rejected the government's offer but have indicated they would accept an unconditional amnesty in connection with freedom for all political prisoners.

The elections, which filled 110,428 seats on local and regional advisory councils, turned into a test of power between the government and Solidarity, which urged voters to boycott to show their displeasure with the suppression of the union.

Authorities reported a turnout of just under 75 per cent and said Solidarity's boycott call had failed. They claimed the voting represented a mandate for the government's policies.

Solidarity has accused authorities of inflating the official turnout figure by between 15 and 20 per cent.

Brazilians to rally again for direct elections

BRASILIA (R) — Hundreds of thousands of opponents of Brazil's military-led government are planning to take to the streets again to demand the right to vote for President Joao Figueiredo's successor.

The size of the rallies set for Tuesday in Sao Paulo and in Rio de Janeiro Wednesday will test popular support for direct presidential elections for the first time since an opposition constitutional amendment was defeated in parliament on April 25.

In the run-up to the April vote, the opposition organised numerous rallies, with one in Sao Paulo attended by an estimated

1.7 million, to have the next president be chosen directly by the people and not by an electoral college in which the ruling Social Democratic Party (PDS) has a majority.

This week's rallies are meant to focus attention on Wednesday's parliamentary debate on Mr. Figueiredo's own constitutional amendment which proposes direct elections in 1988, slashing the presidential term to four years from six and allowing future presidents to seek re-election for a second term.

With neither the PDS nor the combined opposition having the

two-thirds majority needed for constitutional changes, political observers say Mr. Figueiredo's proposition stands little chance.

The presidential race, botting up as Mr. Figueiredo prepares to stand down next March, is complicated by deep splits within the ruling party.

One PDS group favours direct elections and 54 PDS deputies voted in favour of the opposition amendment in April, casting doubts on whether they would support a PDS presidential candidate in the 600-seat electoral college where the PDS has only a 36-vote majority.

Weinberger 'confirms' Soviet munition blast

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger said Monday he could confirm reports of a huge explosion at a Soviet naval munitions depot last month and the destruction of a substantial amount of material and facilities.

U.S. officials, asking that their names not be used, reported the explosion last week and said it occurred at the Soviet Navy's arms depot at Severomorsk.

They said the apparently accidental blast, 1,400 kilometres north of Moscow, may have destroyed a third of the fleet's surface-to-air missiles as well as some cruise missiles.

Mr. Weinberger, in an interview with news agency reporters, said he could not provide many details

of the explosion.

He said only: "It did a lot of damage. It was very, very big intensity. It certainly destroyed a lot of material and facilities. I don't have the cause yet."

A senior Democratic Senator, Alan Cranston, said Monday that Iran and Iraq were planning to build nuclear weapons that could be used against each other or against Israel.

Sen. Cranston, assistant Democratic leader in the Senate, told a private anti-terrorism conference that Iraq wanted to replace the Osirak reactor bombed by Israel in 1981 "to re-invigorate a sophisticated nuclear development effort."

He said Iran wanted to buy plu-

tonium reprocessing technology, and 35 West German technicians were in Iran studying whether it would be possible to complete two 1,350-megawatt reactors at Bushehr which were abandoned when the Shah was overthrown.

Sen. Cranston estimated that Iran would be able to generate its own plutonium in five years and build nuclear weapons in seven years.

He said Iraq had fortified the shell of the Osirak reactor, which he said had nearly been able to produce nuclear weapons when it was bombed.

"Neither would hesitate to use a nuclear bomb against the other or against Israel," the Californian senator said.

Kirkpatrick says Soviets sponsor terrorism

WASHINGTON (R) — Jeane Kirkpatrick, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, Monday accused the Soviet Union of being the main sponsor of international terrorism.

She said the term national liberation movement was given to groups supported by the Soviet Union and associated states seeking power by violence.

Speaking at a conference organised by the Jonathan Institute, a private research foundation, she said: "The most important totalitarian state of our times is also

the principal supporter and sponsor of international terrorism."

She said those who pursued power by terrorism aspired to found totalitarian societies.

The Soviet News Agency TASS has condemned remarks made at the conference Monday by Secretary of State George Shultz, who accused the Soviet Union and its clients of providing financial, logistic and training support for terrorists throughout the world.

"The White House needs the conference to try to involve its elo-

quent allies in its own global banditry and to put together an international police-like alliance led by the U.S. to fight national liberation movements," TASS said.

Mr. Kirkpatrick said their acceptance as legitimate by and inside the United Nations indicated the moral confusion that had come to surround the use of violence.

She said that "something like Stalinism" had emerged in Nicaragua and had led to "the liquidation of a nation" in Vietnam and Kampuchea.

Soviets ready to co-operate on environment

MUNICH, West Germany (R) — The Soviet Union, by announcing at a major ecology conference its readiness to cut air pollution, has shown it is prepared to join international efforts to clean up the environment.

Chief Soviet delegate Yuri Izrael said his country was ready to cut harmful sulphur dioxide emissions from power stations by 30 per cent in 1993 from 1980 levels.

He was addressing a 31-nation East-West conference studying ways to combat "acid rain" damage to woodland, water and buildings.

Conference sources said his announcement Monday showed Moscow's willingness to help cut cross-border pollution and echoed an accord reached in Ottawa last March by 10 Western nations.

Top-level delegations from

every East Bloc country except Albania are at the four-day conference, and most West European nations, the United States and Canada are also attending.

Conference sources said officials were today expected to try to work out a joint resolution before the conference goes into full session again in mid-afternoon.

Monday's Soviet move was followed by East Germany and Bulgaria, which both announced their readiness to cut emissions by 30 per cent.

West Germany, about a third of whose forests are damaged by "acid rain", sees international co-operation as the only way to solve the pollution problem and an Interior Ministry spokesman said the Soviet move was an important signal.

Air pollution, carried by pre-

valing winds, inflicts damage outside the originating countries and delegates argued that it was not enough for one state alone to put its house in order if the problem were to be solved.

But Britain provoked some irritation with a bluntly-worded statement that it was not prepared to join the "30 per cent club" and that it considered some of the anti-pollution technology espoused by other countries as inadequate.

The United States, which has not signed the Ottawa accord, said it "was unwilling to formulate anti-pollution strategy until it had learnt more about the problem."

Conference sources said the final conference resolution seemed unlikely to come up with legally binding agreements on cutting pollution.

COLUMN

Bride disappears on wedding night

EDINBURGH (R) — Scotsman Ronnie Dalrymple got married last Saturday but instead of embarking on a romantic honeymoon he spent the weekend looking for his bride, Margaret Mary Smith, the new Mrs. Dalrymple, disappeared with her parents while wedding guests were still toasting the match in a local hotel. The disappointed groom, aged 27, told reporters he blamed his mother-in-law who, he said, disapproved of the marriage because he was Protestant and the Smiths were Roman Catholic. "A few hours after the wedding my mother-in-law took my wife aside and told her that if the wedding was not consummated that night, it could be annulled by the church," he said. He has not seen her since. Margaret Mary's sister, Lorraine, said her parents had taken the bride away. "I feel sorry for Ronnie," she said. "They had been going together for four years and if my sister was not wanting to go ahead with the marriage she should have broken it off before the wedding."

Scottish title to stay in Florida

LONDON (R) — A retired British army colonel has lost a lengthy legal battle to unseat a former American jockey from a 300-year-old Scottish title. Monday's court ruling means that the baronetcy of Dunbar of Mochnrum, and a trust fund worth more than \$1 million, stays with Sir Ivan Ivor Dunbar of Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The losing party was Col. William Dunbar, aged 90, who had spent three years and £10,000 trying to prove his right to the title. After the ruling by the Lyon court, which handles nobility disputes in Scotland, the colonel said he was disappointed but bore no grudge. Sir Ivan Ivor Dunbar, now 66, was a penniless New Yorker before inheriting the title seven years ago.

Crime rises in England, Wales

LONDON (AP) — Crime recorded in England and Wales rose five per cent in the first quarter of 1984. The Home Office said Monday. The number of reported robberies increased by 14 per cent, criminal damage by 12 per cent, burglary by eight per cent and muggings by six per cent, according to Home Office statistics. Overall crime fell one per cent in 1983 compared to 1982.

Singapore's 'goddess of love' in action

SINGAPORE (R) — Venus, the goddess of love and beauty, is now at work in Singapore hoping to encourage students to marry and breed talented children. But Venus, a computerised matchmaking service, has received a mixed reception from the 12,000 students at the National University of Singapore (NUS). Some described the service as an invasion of privacy. Others said it would be good fun. The Computer Science Society at NUS said Tuesday students had been asked to fill in questionnaires about their preferences for mates, physical characteristics and other personal details. Information obtained from the questionnaires would be used to build a compatibility index, matching new students with their senior partners at the university, it added.

Mexican wins photography prize

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — Mexican photographer Manuel Alvarez Bravo is the winner of the 1984 Hasselblad Award, sometimes called "the Nobel Prize of photography". It was officially announced here during the weekend. The Hasselblad foundation, established by the late camera manufacturer Dr. Victor Hasselblad, cited Mr. Alvarez Bravo, 82, for his "artistic photography and evocative pictures" and his work in "revealing Mexican culture, both past and present, through the art of photography." Among previous prize winners may be noted Swedish medical photographer Lennart Nilsson, the late U.S. nature photographer Ansel Adams and Frenchman Henri Cartier-Bresson, master of the "decisive moment" in photography. The prize will be officially awarded in conjunction with the Alvarez Bravo exhibition to be held at the west coast city of Göteborg in September.